FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 247 *21 December 1984*

ARGENTINA

5,000 Civil Servants March, Demand Wage Increase B 1
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 20 Dec]
Budget Cuts Limit Armed Forces Vehicle Use B 1
State-Owned Enterprise, UK Firms Reach Accord B 2
Uranco To Develop Uranium Mine in San Luis B 2
Political Leaders Want Elections on Single Date B 3
UCR National Youth Committee Issues Declaration B 3
Brazilians Not Allowed To Honor Firmenich B 4

BOLIVIA

Reportage on Cabinet Resignations, Candidates C 1
UDP 'Virtually Dissolved' C 1
Alvarez Candidacy Possible C 1
Paz Resignation Accepted C 2
New Coalition's Candidate C 2
Deputies Seek Reconsideration of Election Law C 2
Proposal Rejected C 3
Former Finance Minister on 'Uncontrollable' Economy C 4
Briefs: FRG Credits C 4

BRAZIL

Neves Short-Term Economic Policy Outlined D 1
[O GLOBO 19 Dec]

CHILE

Pinochet, Jarpa Interviewed on Current Issues E 1
[Bogota EL TIEMPO 9 Dec]
Further Reportage on Journalist's Kidnapping E 6
FPMR Makes Demands E 6
Merino Rejects Negotiations E 7
Del Valle Comments E 7

COLOMBIA

Reportage on Guerrilla Disputes, Activities F 1
EPL, M-19 Differences Discussed [EL TIEMPO 12 Dec] F 1
FARC-PCC Relations Deteriorate [EL TIEMPO 17 Dec] F 1
EPL 'Solidarity' With M-19 F 2
M-19 Requests Spanish Mediation F 2
EPL: Army Endangers Truce F 3
Cauca Hostilities May End F 3
Briefs: Coffee Exports F 3

PERU

Protest Lodged With U.S. Over Kirkpatrick Remarks J 1
Belaunde Criticizes 'Dirty War' Originating Abroad J 1
Shining Path Stages Attack on Huancavelica J 1
23 Guerrillas Killed During Operations 11-18 Dec J 2

VENEZUELA

Foreign Minister To Visit Guyana in February L 1
Energy Minister: OPEC Members Disregard Measures L 1
Patrimony director Reinstated in Post L 1

MEXICO

PRI Deputy Comments on U.S. Ambassador's Conduct [EL UNIVERSAL 15 Dec] M 1
De la Madrid Note on Disarmament, U.S.-USSR Talks [EL UNIVERSAL 14 Dec] M 1
Cubans Said Interested in Increasing Trade M 2
Further Remarks M 3
January-September Export Surplus Reported M 3
Credit Arrangement for Metro Signed With France M 3
PSUM Document Views Country's Movement Toward Right [EL DIA 17 Dec] M 4

CENTRAL AMERICA

BELIZE

Legislature To Begin New Session 21 December P 1

COSTA RICA

Foreign Minister, Shultz Discuss Contadora P 1
Civil Registry Dissolves United People's Coalition P 1
UNHCR Officials Deny Refugees Being Detained P 2

EL SALVADOR

FDR's Ungo Proposes U.S. Participate in Dialogue P 2
Further on Dialogue P 3
No Progress Made in Talks [EL NACIONAL 17 Dec] P 3

GUATEMALA

Army Denies Rebel Statement on Casualties P 4
Andrade Says Position on Contadora Unchanged P 4

HONDURAS

U.S. Links Further Aid to Ramirez Land Issue [TIEMPO 18 Dec] P 5
M-LIDER Leader on Group's Status, Policies P 6
Former FUSEP Chief Allowed To Return to Country [LA PRENSA 18 Dec] P 7

NICARAGUA

4-Month Water Rationing in Managua Announced P 8
U.S. Group's Plan Against Invasion Noted [BARRICADA 18 Dec] P 8
Chamorro Barrios Removed as LA PRENSA Codirector P 9
Iranian Ambassador Meets Foreign Trade Minister [IRNA] P 9

ARDE Says USSR Sends Arms in Medicine Crates [Voice of Sandino] P 10
ARDE Announces Pastora's Return From U.S. [Voice of Sandino] P 10

CUBA

Montane Oropesa Meets Zambia's Musuka Q 1
Soviet Marshal Kurkotkin Visits FAR Academy Q 1
Camacho Aguilera Meets East Berlin Deputy Mayor Q 1
R. Castro Attends Reception at Vietnam Embassy Q 1
$3.5 Billion Foreign Debt Refinanced in Paris [AFP] Q 1
'Our America' on Immigration Agreement With U.S. Q 2
U.S. Official's Remarks on Cuba Ties Noted Q 3
'Our America' Calls Grenada Situation 'Bleak' Q 3
Commentary on Namibia's Independence, Apartheid Q 4
Steelworking Industry Conference Closes Q 5

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

IMF Recommends Gasoline Price Increase R 1
$200-Million Increase in Revenue Reported R 1
[LISTIN DIARIO 9 Dec]
Majluta Discusses Government 'Ineptness' R 1
Pena Gomez on Possible Presidential Candidacy R 1

CARIBBEAN

Report Issued on Caricom Trade With UK S 1
Rainford Lauds Barbados for Nassau Pact Action S 1

GRENADA

TUC Voices Disapproval of Senate Appointment S 2
New Jewel Movement Calls Elections Unfair S 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

ECUADOR

Renegotiation Reduces Debt Servicing Percentage V 1

SURINAME

Netherlands Minister Says Aid Not To Be Restored V 1
Private Sector Rejects Assembly Participation V 1

5,000 CIVIL SERVANTS MARCH, DEMAND WAGE INCREASE

PY202325 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Dec 84 p 1

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN) -- More than 5,000 civil servants demonstrated yesterday in front of Government House and the Economy Ministry in support of wage claims, while the General Labour Confederation (CGT) sought an urgent meeting with President Raul Alfonsin to express concern over deteriorating wages and symptoms of recession. Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun, who presided over a meeting of his socio-economic cabinet to discuss wage guidelines for 1985, said he would meet leaders of the public workers either today or tomorrow to hear their claims.

Police set up barriers to prevent the demonstrators, representing all branches of government activity, from reaching the main entrance of the Economy Ministry but allowed their leaders through to present a petition asking for a minimum wage of $a42,000 [pesos] The minister's main adviser Carlos Volpi received the petition and told the leaders Grinspun had granted their request for a meeting.

There were no incidents although the demonstrators chorused slogans telling Grinspun they would not be able to toast during the year-end festivities unless they were paid more. They also carried banners attacking the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and reiterating their pay demands. The demonstrators, including many women in their work tunics, were mostly young people.

A CGT spokesman said the labour organization would not make any wage demands nor ask for emergency increases until they had discussed the matter thoroughly with Alfonsin.

On the 1985 wage guidelines Grinspun said some aspects were considered during yesterday's meeting but discussions would continue at a further meeting on Friday morning. He said the socio-economic cabinet had also discussed the recent soaring of interest rates on the financial market but did not elaborate. When asked about a press report saying the government was thinking of a 20 percent accumulative wage increase during the first quarter of 1985, the minister said that was "far behind" what the government's figure for wages and all the economy during the period. [sentence as published] Queried on a possible CGT request for an emergency increase before the end of the year, Grinspun said the government was willing to consider any request in the light of developments.

BUDGET CUTS LIMIT ARMED FORCES VEHICLE USE

PY200228 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2305 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Dec (DYN) -- Despite the losses suffered during the Malvinas war, the Argentine Armed Forces have more armored vehicles than the Brazilian and Chilean Armies. However, 35 percent of this potential is not being utilized because of the restrictions imposed by the military budget.

These numbers were released during a seminary of the Defense Studies and Research Center (CIED) that met here today. The CIED is a private organization that is made up of civilians and military personnel who study themes related to national defense. According to CIED research, Argentina presently has 442 armored vehicles, of which 255 are medium-sized and 187 are light vehicles. Brazil has 410 light armored vehicles, and Chile has [words indistinct] out of which 171 are medium-sized and 50 are light.

CIED Director Diego Martinez Estrada said during his presentation that 35 percent of the Argentine vehicles are not being utilized due to the restrictions applied to the military budget. He said that "in practice, this means that the relation of strength in this field has been balanced or inverted" regarding our two main neighbour countries. The current average maintainance cost for each medium tank is approximately $10,500 annually.

STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISE, UK FIRMS REACH ACCORD

PY201522 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1004 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Cordoba, 20 Dec (DYN) -- It has been learned in Cordoba that the Cordoba Province Power Enterprise (EPEC) has reached an agreement with two British companies for the supply of items for two power stations after the suspension of a lawsuit that the British firms filed when their contract for the supply of such items was canceled by Argentina in the wake of the Malvinas war. The agreement has stalled the $20-million trial and will benefit the General Levalle and San Francisco power stations, which are located in Cordoba Province. The materials, whose specifications were not disclosed, will be delivered against the payment of 54 million Argentine pesos, or its equivalent of $300,000, on 15 January 1985. The British firms that filed the lawsuit are John Brown Engineering Gas Turbines, Ltd and Elemec Ingenieria S.A. The conflict started 3 months after the end of the Malvinas war when EPEC canceled the contract, which prompted the 16-million pound sterling suit.

EPEC President Francisco Soler recently held a meeting in Buenos Aires with a representative of Elemec Ingenieria S.A. and a London-based John Brown Engineering Gas Turbines Limited executive at which time the parties decided to share the court costs. At the same time, in an attachment to the agenda for the period of special sessions of the Cordoba Province legislature, the Cordoba Province executive branch has submitted a draft bill authorizing the agreement on the transaction between the EPEC and the British firms.

URANCO TO DEVELOP URANIUM MINE IN SAN LUIS

PY202125 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] San Luis, 20 Dec (TELAM) -- The San Luis government has ordered the development of a mine that will produce uranium at full capacity as of March 1985 in this province. The Uranco Incorporated Mining complex will be in charge of the work on this mine.

La Estela is a uranium mine located 1,200 meters above sea level, some 5 km from Villa Larca, which is 326 km from San Luis and 6.5 km from provincial highway No 1 in the northeastern sector of this province. This mine, which has undergone prospecting operations for almost 20 years, has an established amount of 85,000 tons of measured material with a content of 0.1 percent of uranyl [uranilo] (U3 08), that is, 85 tons of that material, which will allow San Luis to count on the mining royalties, per kilogram, of uranium concentrate.

Through an agreement signed in 1980 between Uranco, Inc and the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA] this enterprise has developed a mining program for the exploitation and treatment of the uranium, in addition to establishing the corporation guidelines between the provincial mining board, the CNEA, and La Estela mine.

The report adds that the uranium production will be carried out through the open pit system, and the material extracted from the mine will be taken in trucks to the plant to be processed and submitted to a grinding and concentration process through the ion exchange resins, in accordance with the CNEA specifications.

So far the plant has carried out 85 percent of the project, and is expected to reach full capacity operation by March 1985, providing jobs to some 60 workers. The investments made so far amount to $1.3 million.

In San Luis there are other uranium and uranium salt mines, such as Repecho, La Asturiana, Las Cuevas, La Elita, La Quinta, El Neutren, La Angela, and El Flaco, on which the provincial mining board has asked for the appropriate CNEA technical reports to ascertain the degree of development of these projects.

POLITICAL LEADERS WANT ELECTIONS ON SINGLE DATE

PY191340 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1249 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Dec (TELAM) -- Vice President Victor Martinez today said that congressional bloc leaders are almost unanimously in favor of calling for the 1985 [congressional] elections on a single date, so that elections can be called less frequently in view of the economic problems of the nation. Martinez met with President Alfonsin at Government House this morning. He told the president that it will be impossible to debate the Beagle treaty before the end of the year, because it has not yet been approved by the Chamber of Deputies.

UCR NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE ISSUES DECLARATION

PY182009 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1022 GMT 16 Dec 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (DYN) -- The Radical Civic Union [UCR] National Youth Committee has urged Argentina to adopt a decidedly anti-imperialist position within the Nonaligned Movement "to counteract the East-West balance of power" and to express its support for "Nicaraguan and the Contadora Group."

In the second half and last day of talks the Youth Committee called for an "urgent and deep" reform of the financial system and urged the party to "promote and "implement" a national, popular, democratic, and anti-imperialist" movement. In a final statement that summarizes the reports issued by the various commissions that studied the national and international situation and UCR activities, the young UCR leaders also urged Argentina to "definitively" adopt an active position within the Nonaligned Movement in order "to counteract the East-West" balance of power. The statement was unanimously approved yesterday afternoon by the delegates of the National Youth Committee, which is made up of representatives from 19 of the 24 national electoral districts, while a noisy group with drums, tambourines, and placards cheered the UCR and President Raul Alfonsin, who sent a message to the meeting.

The statements, which is written in a highly critical tone, states that "Argentine's dependent socioeconomic structure demands a deep reform" so as "to defeat the interests of the oligarchy and imperialism." Therefore, the committee demands "an urgent and overall financial reform that will place the financial structure at the service of Argentina's economy."

It adds that 1 year after it assumed power the UCR is confronting "enormous difficulties," and it notes that "today, despite the attacks of antipopular groups, there are millions of Argentines who are struggling and identifying themselves with the people's cause to strengthen democracy and national liberation." Regarding the human rights issue, in their statement the UCR youth express the need to "reassert the commitment that all issues in this regard will be resolved within the framework of the law and that any effort to return to the past will be rejected."

After warning the UCR government that "there are still pending problems," among which is inflation, which "affects all Argentina society, but particulaly those who have less," the Youth Committee says that the income distribution problem should be dealt with "through the government-labor-business agreement, which is committed to the national liberation project." The Youth Committee also favors a reformulation of the tax policy "to make it more fair and equitable," and calls for a "greater democratization" of the labor unions, so that "the minorities can be represented and the candidates can be more representative."

Referring to the international situation, the National Committee of the Radical Youth affirms that "imperialism is a scheme for dominion of some nations over others, regardless of the political system," and that while "conflict is the business of the North, we must promote peace, which is the business of the South." The final declaration then expresses the support of the Radical Youth for "the popular struggle for democracy that will not end as long as a brotherly country is in the clutches of dependency." It asserts "its total support" of the peace negotiations being conducted by the Contadora Group in Central America. The declaration emphasizes that Argentina should be "definitively" associated with the Nonaligned Movement so as "to offset the bipolar scheme" by exercising popular sovereignty."

As for the situation of the UCR, the Radical Youth declaration, after making a brief historical review of the growth of Radicalism in recent years, maintains that the governing party "is once again the vanguard of the national and popular movement, taking to the street and holding the lead in defense of the democratic process, thus leaving behind and burying forever the elitist attitude that the leaders of the party sported at one time." The declaration affirms that the UCR should be "an active party with answers for a modern society living under a state of law, standing in defense of the democratic institutions." It finally proposes that the party's organizational charter be reformed by making "the changes necessary to transform the UCR into an instrument capable of energizing a national, popular, democratic, and anti-imperialistic movement."

BRAZILIANS NOT ALLOWED TO HONOR FIRMENICH

PY200130 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0006 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 19 Dec (DYN) -- Interior Ministry Under Secretary Raul Galvin today reiterated that the Argentina Government "does not share at all the opinion" of considering " "Mario Firmenich, former Montonero leader, a political prisoner," since he "simply is a common prisoner." Galvan made these statements during an audience granted at Government House to Brazilian councilmen who intend to give Firmenich documents that declare him an "honorary citizen" of Rio de Janeiro. According to Government House sources, Galvan told the Brazilian councilmen that the government does not agree with the decision of granting a distinction to the leader of a guerrilla movement. Galvan also told the Brazilian councilmen that if they wish to visit Firmenich in his prison they should address themselves to the judge who is hearing the case. In turn, the Rio de Janeiro councilmen stated at the end of the audience that they do not at all agree that awarding Firmenich a distinction means intervening in Argentine domestic matters.

REPORTAGE ON CABINET RESIGNATIONS, CANDIDATES

UDP 'Virtually Dissolved'

PY202300 Paris AFP in Spanish 2242 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] La Paz, 20 Dec (AFP) -- Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena has reported here that the Bolivian cabinet resigned today.

Rueda Pena added that the president is now holding consultations to designate his new ministers for the transition period for the elections to be held in June 1985.

The following ministers of the Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MIR] resigned last week: Guillermo Capobianco (housing); Alfonso Camacho (education); Presidential Secretary Marcelo Urioste; and Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora.

Official circles have reported that the new cabinet will be made up of members of the Nationalist Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MNRI], and of some independents.

Thus, the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP], created in 1977 by the MIR, the MNRI, and the (pro-Soviet) Communist Party, which assumed the government in October 1982, has been virtually dissolved.

Alvarez Candidacy Possible

PY210100 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata has told Radio Panamericana that his resignation from his ministry and his probable candidacy for the presidency of the republic is in the hands of the president and head of his party, Dr Hernan Siles Zuazo. There has been intense speculation in the past few hours that this veteran politician, who heads the Interior Ministry, had resigned from his post to make his candidacy possible. Since these speculations were neither confirmed nor denied, Panamericana consulted the interior minister.

[Begin recording] [Alvarez Plata] The president is in charge of giving information.

[Unidentified reporter] Can we assume that you have resigned from the ministry?

[Alvarez Plata] Well, the president will have the final word.

[Reporter] What are the chances that you will become the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MNRI] candidate in the 1985 elections?

[Alvarez Plata] Well, the possibility always exists. But it depends entirely on the decisions to be adopted by the party at the next national convention. [end recording]

However, all MNRI members want the party to run in the elections alone. Alvarez Plata did not say much about his party's possible decisions at the national convention, which will be held precisely to consider aspects of the general elections to be held next year.

Regarding the rumor about the possible resignation of the president of the Republic, Alvarez Plata stated that it is unfounded, and added that Siles Zuazo will continue governing until 6 August 1985.

Paz Resignation Accepted

PY201255 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] During a special session yesterday, the Bolivian Congress accepted the resignation tendered a few days ago by Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora. Paz Zamora has resigned so that he can run for president in the elections scheduled for June 1985. The congressional resolution authorizes Paz Zamora to run for president. After making this decision, Congress discussed the municipalities law.

New Coalition's Candidate

PY201432 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Humberto Cayoja Riart, the former chief of the military household under the regime led by General Hugo Banzer Suarez, is running for president of the Republic.

To this end, Cayoja Riart is leading a political coalition called the National Renewal and Unity Front [Frente de Unidad y Renovacion Nacional], which is center-leftist in leaning. This new political coalition includes the MNRI-I [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left-I], which is led by Francisco Figueroa. In addition, the coalition is made up of professionals, students, and other people who share the political ideas of the former chief of the military household. Cayoja Riart was introduced in union offices located in the Graneros marketplace in La Paz. Questioned by the press, Cayoja Riart made the following comments:

[Begin Cayoja Riart recording] Our organization is of a popular extraction, and it is center-leftist in leaning. We advocate the well-being of the majority of Bolivians. [end recording]

He also stated that he has no ties with former President Hugo Banzer Suarez, who is the leader of the Nationalist Democratic Action party [ADN]. I am not an ADN follower and, therefore, I cannot make any comment on that political party, Cayoja Riart added.

[Begin Cayoja Riart recording] I am not an ADN follower. I feel that you should ask Gen Banzer that question. [end recording]

These were comments made by Humberto Cayoja Riart, who advocates the formation of a National Renewal and Unity Front, regarding it as a political alternative for the majority sectors for the 1986 [as heard] elections.

DEPUTIES SEEK RECONSIDERATION OF ELECTION LAW

PY201245 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2127 GMT 19 Dec 84

[By Juan Maria Calvo]

[Text] La Paz, 19 Dec (EFE) -- Deputies from several Bolivian Government parties and from the opposition today asked that the approved decrees on the general elections planned for 1985 be reconsidered.

The National Congress held a session to study the law on municipal elections scheduled for 16 June 1985. Former Finance Minister Oscar Bonifaz, of the Christian Democratic Party, asked that the promulgation of the law on the elections and the decision to allow Vice President Paz Zamora to run in the elections be reconsidered.

Despite the astonishment and indignation of deputies from the Nationalist Democratic Action [ADN] and of the Historical Nationalist Revolutionary Movement [MNRH], several parties and some independents supported Bonifaz's proposal.

Deputies from the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MNRI], which is headed by President Hernan Siles Zuazo, of the Communist Party of Bolivia, which gave up its ministries a month ago but which is still supporting the government bloc, and of the Socialist Party [PS-I], of the opposition, also supported the petition.

Bonifaz stated that the economic situation prevents the elections from being held and justified his petition, claiming that the law on the planned elections is unconstitutional.

Bonifaz added that he submitted his petition within the legal 48-hour term after the approval of the laws by Congress.

President Siles Zuazo ratified these laws on 15 December, the same day that Congress approved them, exactly 6 months before the date of the elections, the deadline given by the Constitution.

Bonifaz also protested the promulgation of a special law qualifying Paz Zamora to be a candidate. Bonifaz argued that the Constitution forbids a second term in office by the president and vice president of the nation.

The joint session of the two congressional chambers this afternoon continued to discuss whether the approved laws are constitutional.

If these decrees are declared unconstitutional, the call for early elections, agreed upon the majority of political parties to avert the threat of a coup, will be anulled.

Proposal Rejected

PY210120 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0033 GMT 21 Dec 84

[By Adalid Cabrera Lemuz]

[Text] La Paz, 20 Dec (AFP) -- After confirming that general elections will be held on 16 June 1985, the Bolivian Congress has virtually declared a Christmas political truce between the opposition and the ruling coalition before the initiation of the respective electoral campaigns.

The Congress closed this year's session after rejecting a proposal submitted by some political parties which demanded that the decree calling for elections be reconsidered on grounds that it is unconstitutional.

Several congressmen from leftist parties and from the ruling coalition were among the sponsors of this proposal. These parties contended that the National Congress should review the election decree. This would have touched off a fresh political dispute and greater problems in the national efforts to promote democracy, independent political analysts have said.

Top Bolivian union leader Juan Lechin Oquendo, who had initially opposed the move to call elections 1 year early, has harshly criticized those politicians who, after entering into an agreement, have reneged on their commitment.

The proposal to reconsider the election call was sponsored by Oscar Bonifaz, a deputy for the Christian Democratic Party and former finance minister in the Siles Zuazo administration. The proposal has been finally rejected and the National Congress has declared a political truce in order to allow the parties represented there to reorganize their ranks to have better chances in the 1985 election.

Within that framework, the political parties have begun an intense round of party consultations to define the scope of their participation in next year's general and municipal elections.

The government sector has not yet selected the candidate who will head its ticket because internal disputes in the governing parties have delayed an agreement.

Sources of the governing Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), which is headed by Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora, who has resigned, have stressed that sectors of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI), which is headed by Siles Zuazo, have the intention of blocking their leader from running as a presidential candidate.

There is disagreement within the leftist sector that makes it difficult to form a single presidential ticket that can confront the center-right fronts that seem to be the favorites in the upcoming elections. This is the opinion of Bolivian editorial analysts.

The opposition has two trump cards for the upcoming elections: former Presidents Victor Paz Estenssoro, 77, who was president on three occasions until he was overthrown in 1964, and Hugo Banzer Suarez, who headed a dictatorship between 1971 and 1978. According to preliminary polls, they are the favorites.

FORMER FINANCE MINISTER ON 'UNCONTROLLABLE' ECONOMY

PY201442 Paris AFP in Spanish 0208 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] La Paz, 19 Dec (AFP) -- Deputy Oscar Bonifaz today predicted in La Paz that the current economic crisis will lead Bolivia into a frightening situation with over 40 billion Bolivian pesos in circulation and with a black market exchange rate in which 1 dollar will be worth 100,000 pesos. Bonifaz, who was finance minister in the current government led by Hernan Siles Zuazo and is a high-ranking Christian Democratic leader, has assessed the current economic-financial situation, which he termed uncontrollable. Bonifaz reported that the government has chartered a plane from London to La Paz to carry millions in paper money to be pumped into the deteriorated domestic market. [sentence as received] The dollar is now being officially quoted at 9,000 Bolivian pesos, while on the black market it is being quoted at 20,000 Bolivian pesos.

Bonifaz, after stating that the economic crisis is getting worse, proposed that the National Congress revise the call for elections, because it violates the Constitution itself, as well as the spirit of the agreements that the political parties reached with the mediation of the Catholic Church.

BRIEFS

FRG CREDITS -- The Bolivian and FRG Governments have signed three cooperation agreements. The FRG is offering the possibility of utilizing a credit line up to DM4 million through the Institute of Credits for Reconstruction [Instituto de Credito para la Reconstruccion] to expand the Carachipampa smelter. In addition, the FRG Government is offering the possibility of utilizing a credit line up to DM1 million for the Fund for Studies and Experts-II [Text] [La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Dec 84 PY]

NEVES SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC POLICY OUTLINED

PY210245 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Dec 84 p 2

[By Ariosto Teixeira]

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- The Democratic Alliance's Government Platform Committee, which met on 18 December for the second time, has already defined the short-term economic policy that will be implemented by the Trancredo Neves government.

1. It will maintain, and even increase, the level of foreign exchange reserves. This will give the future government elbow room to undertake the renegotiations of the foreign debt and it will help it to face any possible disagreements with the IMF in the discussion and drafting of the eighth letter of intent.

2. It will adopt measures for the immediate creation of jobs.

3. It will improve the people's access to food.

Accoring to Jose Serra, the committee's coordinator, the foreign exchange reserves (which currently amount to between $2.5 and $3 billion) must not be used to finance internal programs. He stated that President Tancredo Neves is inflexible on this point. He wants to maintain a reasonable level of foreign exchange reserves. According to the committee's line of thought, this will guarantee the government the necessary resources for paying short-term commitments, such as oil imports.

The creation of jobs and the people's access to food are contained in the so-called Emergency Program, which, at the request of the current government, will not, for the time being, go under that name. This was revealed during the 18 December meeting. The committee has come to the conclusion that in 1985 the future government will have very little elbow room to implement a policy that will get the economy growing again. Any possibility of freezing prices in the economic sector was also rejected during the meeting. It has also been lamented that some industries are already increasing prices above the current level of inflation because they fear a price freeze policy. The evaluation that the committee has made basically took into account the restrictions in the economic area that are determined by the inflationary process; agricultural priority, for example, and the push for a record harvest collide with the question of minimum prices, which are corrected according to the inflation rate, thus helping agricultural production, no matter how good it is, to combat inflation. One of the committee's members indicated that, on the one hand, the minimum prices that are corrected according to the inflation rate were fundamental for the push to increase the planted area. But, on the other hand and contrary to tradition, inflation does not stay stable any more when there is a good harvest. Jose Serra, current Sao Paulo State planning secretary, has stated that the second meeting of the committee served to make an overall evaluation of the state of the economic sector. In an interview, Serra stated that they did not stray from the evaluation of the economy. No political proposal was discussed.

According to the committee, on the question of salaries there will be no shock treatment; neither can real increases be expected just after Neves takes office. The committee believes that it is necessary that a recovery in the salary sector must come together with an increase in productivity within the economic sector. Serra was positive: Salaries will be recovered to the extent that the economy recovers and only if this recovery can be maintained. There is a commitment that a gradual recovery of salaries and of the overall payroll, which includes not only what each person earns, but also the number of people who are employed, will be permitted.

PINOCHET, JARPA INTERVIEWED ON CURRENT ISSUES

PA200014 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 9 Dec 84 p 3 B

[Interview with President General Augusto Pinochet and Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa by Marta Isabel Espinosa de Lara and Luz Mary de Garcia-Pena, in Santiago, on 23 November; questions not attributed to individual reporters]

[Text] "I think it is suicidal not to perceive the communist threat, the existence and destabilizing actions of which can be noticed day after day throughout Latin America," General Augusto Pinochet said in an exclusive interview with EL TIEMPO on 23 November, the day of his 69th birthday.

We arrived in Santiago on Thursday, 15 November (invited by Copper Airlines, Ladeco). We were determined to make the journalist prevail over the tourist, and therefore prepared a program of interviews that, if followed, would provide an overall idea of the situation in Chile. At first it seemed impossible. However, despite the difficult work ahead, we were comforted by the thought that the following day (Friday) we had an appointment with Sergio Onofre Jarpa, former ambassador to Columbia, the incumbent interior minister, and founder of the National Party.

Upon arriving in Chile, police agents immediately call on journalists and stamp tourist visas with the warning: "If not properly accredited by the Interior Ministry corresponding sanctions will be applied."

We saw the minister during a tea break. He ordered the issuance of the necessary credentials for us, and agreed to give us an interview, but not until after the weekend "because I am behind schedule in sowing my sunflower seeds." He also promised to try to arrange an interview with President Pinochet, who has not received any foreign journalists for over a year.

We learned later that some Chilean Government officials had tried to prevent the issuance of work permits, as well as the interviews with Gen Pinochet and Minster Jarpa. Fortunately, the Chilean Embassy accredited in Colombia learned about the impasse and collaborated in solving the problem.

We had to wait 1 week before we could interview Gen Pinochet and Minister Jarpa. In the meantime, we talked to prominent opposition leaders. We were concerned over the fact that each time we talked with one of them over the phone, the line was cut. Coincidence? We were advised to carry the tapes of our interviews with us at all times, because on a previous occasion, tapes belonging to members of a British commission were stolen from the hotel where they were staying. We were not sure if we were being followed. Just in case, some friends advised us to frequently change our means of transportation and not to go directly to our final destination.

In this manner, and without problems we were able to meet General Gustavo Leigh, who participated in the 11 September 1973 coup, was a member of the military junta, and was removed by Pinochet after 5 years; Alejandro Jara, lawyer and former ambassador to Colombia; Jorge Ovalle, prominent Chilean constitutionalist; Ernol Florez, union leader; and Ricardo Lagos, a lawyer and socialist economist who collaborated with Salvador Allende's government. Here is the result of our interviews.

Gen Augusto Pinochet received us in his office at the Moneda Palace. A few minutes earlier we had exchanged a few words with Generals Benavides and Matthei, members of the military junta, who together with all the cabinet members were waiting to congratulate the chief of state. He was dressed impeccably in a uniform consisting of gray pants and a white jacket.

He looks younger than in his photographs although some people say he has aged a great deal in the last few years. His eyes are deep blue and his hair partially gray. His initial greeting was: How have you been treated and what do you think of Chile? We then began the interview.

[Reporter] During the 1950's Chile and Uruguay were described as models of democracy on the American continent. How would you describe Chile today?

[Pinochet] Chilean democracy succumbed to the communist onslaught. Our task has been to establish conditions to allow Chile's democracy to defend itself against communism in the future. Chile is struggling today in a dignified manner to fulfill its stated goals, along the road it has chosen, patiently enduring frequent shows of international misunderstanding and particularly the impact of the slander campaign financed and orchestrated by Marxism to distort its image.

[Reporter] Chileans have always been described as a thinking, controversial, and analytical people with a great political culture. Do you think that the government you head is suited to this type of questioning mentality?

[Pinochet] There people you are referring to supported the government in 1980 when they voted in a plebiscite, and approved by a 67-percent majority the proposed Constitution to which we are now adhering. Don't you think that this is sufficient proof that this government fits the frame of mind you mention?

[Reporter] You spoke about a democratic opening a short time ago in Rancagua (a small town a few kilometers from Santiago). What immediate steps will be taken in this regard?

[Pinochet] We will continue the institutionalization process by considering and promulgating the legal instruments that will permit activities of the political parties that abide by the Constitution and consider the government worthwhile, while not trying to overthrow it. We do not hold a dialogue with subversives, terrorists, instigators, or professional agitators.

[Reporter] Will you call for free elections, or will you designate a civilian or military successor when the deadline you yourself have set for relinquishing power arrives?

[Pinochet] The deadline was approved by the people during the 1980 plebiscite. Regarding this, I can say I will abide by the Constitution to the letter. (Elections in 1989).

[Reporter] Would you turn over power if a leftist coalition emerged the winner in these elections?

[Pinochet] I repeat that I will comply strictly with the provisions of the Constitution. That is to say, it will be the people who will determine Chile's next government.

[Reporter] Now that the Beagle Channel issue is out of the way, what is the nature of Chile's relations with Argentina?

[Pinochet] We Chileans hope to enrich and strengthen our ties with Argentina.

[Reporter] Has Chile considered joining the Andean Subregional Group?

[Pinochet] We are practical. We do not take any rigid stance we cannot later correct if the circumstances so indicate. In addition, we don't sidestep our own principles, of course.

[Reporter] What has been your government's greatest achievement?

[Pinochet] The Popular Unity Party had thrown our country into chaos, ruin, injustice, and hate. We have steered the country on a path of progress, order, and peace that has permitted us to modernize all aspects of the national life.

[Reporter] What has been your biggest frustration?

[Pinochet] Rather than frustration, let's call it disappointment, brought about by the opposition's intransigency. The opposition used the political opening to try to subvert order, to destabilize the government through the use of violence and terrorism.

[Reporter] Finally, women speak of your blue eyes. What do you say about this and women?

[Pinochet] I admire women. They play a decisive role in the lives of men and people. History, particularly that of my homeland, has received a valuable contribution from women. With their resoluteness, self-denial, and femininity, Chilean women have been decisive in the formation of our nationality.

The tourist that comes to Chile does not perceive the situation affecting the country today. There is an apparent climate of calm and tranquillity. One does not see a policeman (Carabinero) on the streets, even to direct traffic. The city is very beautiful and particularly clean. The green trees and multicolored flowers announce the arrival of summer. But the paradise is ruled by states of siege and midnight curfews. There is strict press censorship and communications media opposing the regime have been closed down. We were told that there are thousands of prisoners in stadiums and that disturbances increase night after night. Government-church relations have also deteriorated.

Minister Sergio Jarpa, against whom the church hierarchy's words were aimed, was somewhat disturbed about the pastoral letter which he said caused "surprised and concern." Last week, Jarpa sent a reply to Msgr Fresno, but its contents have not yet been revealed.

After this incident, we called the minister at home or at his office every day to ask his opinion about Archbishop Fresno's letter. Finally, on 23 November we were able to talk to him. We went back to his office after having talked with the president. There was tension in the streets, because that day a rally began in all the churches. Despite this, he received us with his customary gentleness and good humor. The dialogue follows:

[Reporter] What is the real cause for the confrontation between the church and the government?

[Jarpa] There is no confrontation between the church and the government. When the government does not intervene in church matters, and vice versa, there cannot be confrontation. In Chile, there exists separation between church and state. All minor discrepancies or problems have been solved.

[Reporter] In the pastoral letter read Sunday, Msgr Fresno maintained that you told the church hierarchy that you would leave your post. Tell us what happened. Why did you not tell them the state of siege would be declared?

[Jarpa] Msgr Fresno, as far as I know, said that I had not informed them I had been confirmed in my post. I cannot anticipate the actions of the president of the Republic in matters that are decided only by him.

[Reporter] You resigned your post a few days ago. Why did you agree to remain in it?

[Jarpa] The president of the Republic did not accept my resignation and, after talking with him, it appeared that I could solve the problems of the ministry.

[Reporter] You took over the Interior Ministry as the great pacifier...but Chile lives in constant tension. What are your plans to achieve that pacification?

[Jarpa] I assumed the ministry to carry out several actions but, above all, a political project: to cooperate in the study and promulgation of the fundamental organic laws, such as the law of political parties, the law of the elections' qualifying tribunal, and the electoral law. The study of these three laws is quite advanced, the first two in the legislative branch, and the other in the state council. We also seek the promotion of regionalization, reforms to labor laws, solution of the private sector debt, reactivation of the economy, and the creation of the economic and social council.

[Reporter] Do you consider yourself a deep-rooted democrat?

[Jarpa] Yes, not a superficial democrat, but a Chilean truly committed to his people.

[Reporter] Do you think your image has deteriorated?

[Jarpa] I do not worry about it. I only worry about doing everything possible for the good of my country.

[Reporter] Do you think there will be a democratic reopening? When? Is the 1980 Constitution an instrument to lead the country to democracy?

[Jarpa] The democratic opening is already under way in Chile. It has been since 1973, when we rid ourselves of Marxist totalitarianism. The second [as published] important step was this government's development plan to which 66 percent of the State budget is designated. The third step was the 1980 Constitution, approved by two-thirds of the voters. The fourth step will be the promulgation of the political laws, to which I have referred, and in this way we continue to advance.

Cuban advisers were installed in the ministries and the most important public institutions and more than 10,000 foreigners arrived in Chile to form the nucleus of the revolutionary armed forces and were trained in many guerrilla and terrorist schools. All of this was done to establish the totalitarian dictatorship of the Marxist minority in the face of the rejection by the great majority of Chileans, who wanted to maintain their independence and sovereignty, and the respect for essential rights that has characterized this country.

[Reporter] What is your position on the Communist Party?

[Jarpa] The Communist Party not only advocates a system of life and government that is contrary to our own culture and political tradition but it has also always behaved in Chile as a vanguard of Soviet imperialism, thus constituting a grave threat to our independence and sovereignty.

[Reporter] What is your opinion on the censorship of the news media?

[Jarpa] I believe that freedom of information is fundamental. Nevertheless, the communications media must contribute to preserving that freedom and not serve the objectives of the Marxist or totalitarian groups. When the situation becomes difficult and Marxist totalitarianism declares war on us, we must inevitably adopt some temporary restrictive measures similar to those that all governments adopt when they must face a war.

[Reporter] What has the government's economic policy been, the reasons for its failure and its impact on the people?

[Jarpa] The economic recession that the Chilean Government has had to face was caused by the abrupt drop in the price of our export products and the excessive rise in the international interest rates. The price of copper, which was more than $1 a pound in the past, today fluctuates around $.60 and the interest rates have risen to the highest levels ever known. Each cent in the price of copper means $25 million and each point in the interest rate means $180 million. More than any technical explanation, these figures explain the reasons for our problems.

The international recession has also affected the price of many of our other exports such as iron, fruit, lumber, cellulose, etc. All together, we have lost $2 billion a year from all these sectors. Had the situation on the international market been normal, we would not have had any problem and we would have continued to grow at the rate we maintained from 1977 to 1981. I believe similar situations have arisen in other Latin American countries that today also face serious economic difficulties.

[Reporter] All politicians aspire to be president. Have you thought about this?

[Jarpa] I have never thought of such a thing. I do not think I fulfill the requirements. First of all, I do not have the patience to carry out an electoral campaign, and secondly it is not in my character to make commitments with specific groups or sectors that will limit my independence.

[Reporter] What do you and the government think about the opposition and its strength?

[Jarpa] I must admit I have not succeeded in organizing a democratic opposition, one that does not make alliances or reach compromises with Marxist or terrorist groups. As long as this is not achieved, there will be the danger of repeating the mistakes of 1970, when the votes of a democratic sector in the congress were used to install an antidemocratic Marxist minority in the government. I deem it necessary and good to reiterate my concern over this sort of unawareness, a demagogical urge or temptation to commit suicide that leads democratic sectors to pave the way for communism.

[Reporter] In your opinion, what is the country's image abroad?

[Jarpa] Chile's international situation is normal, save for the campaign orchestrated by Soviet communism which does not accept its defeat in our country. This campaign has unlimited resources at its disposal and is carried out through thousands of cover organizations manipulated or infiltrated by communists. The campaign also has agents who operate in news agencies, news media, and government sectors, even in those countries that call themselves models of democracy.

[Reporter] Why has the stance assumed by the Inter-American Human Rights Commission been considered inappropriate? Don't you think that the fact that an observer of this organization has not been allowed to visit the country is self-defeating?

[Jarpa] This situation occurred because the commission violated the established procedure to turn over its reports to the government involved. Such a violation indicated political partiality and abuse of responsibilities, as well as a lack of ethics that should characterize international organizations. The commission released its reports without first reporting to the government and getting our comments, as it should have done.

[Reporter] How did you see the movement of 11 September 1973, the day of the overthrow of President Salvador Allende and the arrival of the military junta?

[Jarpa] The Marxist minority took office in 1970 through a solemn agreement with some democratic parties. It did not keep this agreement. On the contrary, shortly afterwards it abandoned the constitutional path and trampled on the law, the guarantees, and the rights of Chileans. It did not recognize the rulings of the courts and the decisions of the comptroller general of the Republic. It expropriated most of the land in the most productive regions and it seized the most important industrial enterprises through expropriation or extortion. It issued paper money in fantastic quantities to give the impression of well-being and total employment.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON JOURNALIST'S KIDNAPPING

FPMR Makes Demands

PY201424 Paris AFP in Spanish 1135 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Santiago 20 Dec (AFP) -- The clandestine Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR), which has claimed repsonsibility for the abduction of Sebastiano Bertolone, deputy director of the government newspaper LA NACION, today asked for the complete publication of an FPMR political document on 2 days in return for the journalist's release, according to calls made to various news media. An unidentified man has called the national and international press, AFP reported, and requested compliance with two demands in return for the release of Bertolone, who was abducted on the night of Tuesday, 18 December, by a heavily armed group. Here is the brief telephone conversation that this individual held with AFP:

[FPMR] I am calling to claim responsibility for the abduction of the deputy director of the newspaper LA NACION. We demand basically two things: the complete publication of an FPMR document marking the first anniversary of our organization, and that there be no kind of repression after the document is published.

[AFP] What does the document say?

[FPMR] The document will be submitted to all (news) agencies. We are asking that our document be published on Friday, 21 December, and on Monday, 24 December.

[AFP] What will happen if this demand is not met?

[FPMR] Obviously the people know what might happen in this case, but our leaders will first evaluate the response.

Merino Rejects Negotiations

PY202120 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Admiral Merino has said that to negotiate with extremists is putting terrorism on the same level as the government. Admiral Merino made this statement after a meeting with President Augusto Pinochet. With regard to the kidnapping of Sebastiano Bertolone, the deputy director of the newspaper LA NACION, Merino said that this shows communism's lack of humane feelings.

[Begin Merino recording] [Words indistinct] acts of vandalism, communism's lack of humane feelings, its lack of respect for people. They are trying to create among the population a general feeling of terror [passage indistinct]. [end recording]

Admiral Merino was asked what measures would be taken to counteract extremism. He said that not even the most developed countries have been able to solve this problem.

[Begin Merino recording] In reality, no single country [words indistinct] has been able to implement appropriate measures against individual terrorism. [passage indistinct] [end recording].

Admiral Merino pointed out that we have been experiencing urban guerrilla activities for the last 8 months and that every so often subversives decide to carry out actions.

[Begin Merino recording] We have been experiencing urban guerrilla action for about 8 months. They guerrillas are not on the streets everyday, but they occasionally appear [passage indistinct]. They have done great damage to busineses and the people in general. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

In conclusion, in answer to a question if it is possible to negotiate with terrorists, Admiral Merino said that this is putting extremists on the same level as the government.

Del Valle Comments

PY201936 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] There is as yet no confirmation that the anonymous callers claiming responsibility for the abduction of the newspaper LA NACION deputy director are actually holding Sebastiano Bertolone. This statement was made by Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle who received the information from Investigations Director General Fernando Paredes. Jaime del Valle added the only one of the anonymous callers requested an exchange of the three refugees who are staying at the Swedish Embassy for journalist Bertolone. [recorded passage indistinct] The foreign minister also reported that the Swedish Government has not yet requested authorization for the three refugees to leave Chile, adding that although they have held talks with officials of the embassy on this case, there is as yet nothing official on the matter. The three refugees were involved in an attack against the 10th police precinct in La Cisterna on 4 November. Asked about the possibility of exchanging the three refugees for journalist Bertolone, the foreign minister said that this decision did not depend on him and that he did not yet have a solution to this case. On another subject, the foreign minister said that before 1 January, the Foreign Ministry and the General Secretariat of Government will submit to President Pinochet the report that are preparing on a strategy to confront the campaign of false information about Chile which is being carried out internationally. As regards the case of the group of exiles who attempted to reenter the country from Mendoza by land, Jaime del Valle said that they did not succeed in their attempt. He explained that any exile can enter Chile with authorization of the Interior Ministry but he pointed out that the above-mentioned exiles did not have such permission.

REPORTAGE ON GUERRILLA DISPUTES, ACTIVITIES

EPL, M-19 Differences Discussed

PA150650 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 12 Dec 84 p 7 A

[By Roberto Pombo]

[Excerpt] The Popular Liberation Army, EPL, expressed its total disapproval of the 19 April Movement [EPL] statements in favor of holding talks with the drug traffickers and allowing them to bring their money into the country for social welfare projects.

Oscar William Calvo, leader of the EPL, has said that it is his duty to explain that the statements made by Ivan Marino Ospina, a member of the M-19, at a news conference in Mexico City, is only shared by that group and not by the other guerrilla movements.

Calvo said: "The M-19 has been in favor of holding talks with any group or person. On the other hand, we feel that talks should only be held with political groups and only to discuss specific problems."

Calvo pointed out: To invite the drug traffickers to participate in talks would defeat the process that made possible the cease-fire agreement between the government and the guerrillas, which is one of the first steps toward peace in the country.

He said that the drug traffickers are only interested in their personal benefit and to start contacts with them would be equivalent to approving an illegal way to get rich.

Calvo said: "The EPL is against holding any talks with the drug traffickers, even though we opposed the extradition agreement with the United States, the reasons of our sovereignty. We do not want anyone to think that we share the M-19's views."

The EPL also disapproves of the attempts on the lives of U.S. Embassy personnel in Bogota as an example.

Calvo said: "We cannot approve of any action that falls within the realm of terrorism; therefore, we disapprove of any action along these lines carried out by drug traffickers."

Calvo, a member of the commission participating in the national dialogue, admitted that the process has slowed down. He said that they are trying to get President Betancur to take more interest in the process. Calvo said that Peace Commission President John Agudelo Rios will meet today with President Betancur to inform him on the advances made by the peace process and also to tell him that those participating in the dialogue would like to see the President of the Republic take more interest in the process.

FARC-PCC Relations Deteriorate

PA202304 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Dec 84 p 7

[Text] Yesterday the "Ricardo Franco" front of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, criticized the latest declarations by former leader Gilberto Vieira [secretary general of the Communist Party]. As a result, relations between the FARC and the Communist Party of Colombia [PCC] have further deteriorated. In one of its latest bulletins, the FARC said that Vieira "has played a dirty trick on the party" through his declarations against the FARC. The "Ricardo Franco" front also attacked one of FARC's leaders, Jacobo Arenas, describing him as an "executioner" in relation to the disappearance of leaders Argemiro, Alfredo, Andres, and Wilson. This front is currently at odds with the FARC.

LIBERACION, the PCC's regional organ, has appealed to all guerrilla organizations of the country to consolidate the truce, dialogue, and peace. The publication, however, criticized the talks and mechanisms used to complete these processes, especially by the 19 April Movement [M-19] and the Popular Liberation Army [EPL].

EPL 'Solidarity' With M-19

PA190453 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0311 GMT 18 Dec 84

[Text] Bogota, 18 Dec (EFE) -- The command of the Popular Liberation Army, EPL, today placed all of its members on a state of alert and expressed its solidarity with the 19 April Movement, M-19. The EPL's political-military directorate has assumed this attitude in reaction to the military actions carried out by the Army in Cauca Department, EPL leader Oscar William Calvo said. Calvo added that the EPL is also being harassed and attacked by the Army, and that these actions are deteriorating the peace process.

Calvo described the armed clashes between the Army Forces and the M-19 in Corinto as very serious and said that under the present circumstances the situation is very delicate. He also said that in the truce between the government of President Belisario Betancur and the guerrilla organizations, "the military is hurting the agreements with their actions, despite the President's support for the process." Calvo asked that "the military operations be stopped because they violate the agreements signed and because as long as the guerrillas do not engage in armed actions, the military should not cause any conflicts."

With the clashes that have taken place during the past 2 days in the region of Corinto, Cauca Department, "the truce agreements with the M-19 and the other organizations, among them the EPL, are time bombs," Calvo said. He said "the Army is moving throughout the guerrilla zone and that this can be a reason for breaking the truce because the government is slow to take any action regarding the conflicts caused by the military." As long as the Army "keeps closing in on the guerrilla can , the agreements can be broken," Calvo said.

With regard to the accusations made by Acting Defense Minister General Miguel Vega Uribe that the M-19 is creating independent republics in the north of Cauca Department, Calvo said that "it is not independent republics, but guerrilla territory which should be respected according to the peace agreements."

Calvo complained that the national dialgoue has been overtaken by bureaucracy, and that the peace commission "has become practically inoperative and its coordinator German Bula Hoyos is a mere decorative figure."

Finally, Calvo said that the peace process "will not make any progress with good faith speeches, but with effective solutions to the problems affecting the nation and by putting an end to military hostilities."

M-19 Requests Spanish Mediation

LD201343 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] The Colombian guerrilla group M-19 has asked for the collaboration of Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez to prevent the breaking of the truce between the Colombian Government and the guerrillas. M-19 forces and the Army have been involved in clashes since last Thursday in the city of Corinto in western Colombia. The message from the M-19 to Prime Minister Gonzalez was submitted to the Spanish Embassy in Bogota. We trust, says the message, that you who have accompanied us since the beginning of this process will contribute during this d finitive period with your support, your voice, and your efforts to prevent Colombia from reaching the point of no return.

FPL: Army Endangers Truce

PA201822 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Bogota -- The Popular Liberation Army [EPL] guerrilla group today placed its affiliates on a state of alert in view of the deterioration of the truce and dialogue agreements with the government and the peace commission.

In a communique sent to the media, the EPL explained that the harassment actions by the Army, the denial of political guarantees, the ban on public rallies, the arbitrary arrests, and government's delaying tactics and negative attitude has forced them to adopt such a decision. The EPL warns that the truce is endangered in view of the Army's attitude, and trusts that the direct dialogue with President Belisario Betancur may expand the peace agreement possibilities.

Cauca Hostilities May End

PA201703 Paris AFP in Spanish 1543 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Bogota, 20 Dec (AFP) -- The Colombian Army and the 19 April Movement (M-19) guerrillas, through the mediation of the Cease-fire Verification Committee, today reached an agreement to end hostilities in Cauca Department.

The guerrillas of the extreme left-wing and nationalist M-19, who are holding positions in Corinto Jurisdiction and who have waged serious clashes against the Army in the past several days, agreed to abandon the area peacefully, the director of EL ESPECTADOR daily has revealed.

On its part the Army agreed to allow the rebels to withdraw without taking any repressive action against them.

The first step to the agreement was the conclusion of a cease-fire to end the hostilities that took on such intensity that the peace process promoted by Colombian President Belisario Betancur became threatened.

The commissioners met yesterday with Government representatives after visiting the M-19 camps and reported to them on the situation which they described as very serious. They said that immediate action had to be taken to prevent a breaking of the truce.

Meanwhile, the M-19 sent notes to Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez yesterday in which they ask them to mediate in favor of peace in Colombia.

BRIEFS

COFFEE EXPORTS -- Colombian coffee exports increased by 10.7 percent between January and September. Most of these sales were made to the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Argentina, and Japan. [Summary] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 5 Dec 84 p 10 PA]

PROTEST LODGED WITH U.S. OVER KIRKPATRICK REMARKS

PY201402 Lima Radio Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Peruvian Prime Minister Luis Percovich Rojas last night disclosed that the Peruvian Government has lodged a protest not with U.S. Ambassador to Peru David C. Jordan over the comments made by Jeane Kirkpatrick, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, who stated that Peru and Ecuador have a border conflict.

Minister Percovich said that the ambassador made these comments at a meeting on 12 December when the Israeli problem was being discussed. Percovich pointed out that in the protest note, the Peruvian Government reminded the U.S. Government that the dispute ended when the Rio de Janeiro Protocol was signed. Moreover, the note recalled that the United States is one of the guarantor powers of the protocol and expressed the Peruvian Government's surprise over Ambassador Kirkpatrick's statements.

BELAUNDE CRITICIZES 'DIRTY WAR' ORIGINATING ABROAD

PY201508 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 2000 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpts] President Fernando Belanunde Terry has harshly criticized those who are trying to impose bizarre and alien doctrines on the Peruvian people by means of a dirty war. He added that the true dirty war is that one originating abroad. The chief of state made these remarks at a graduation ceremony for 168 new officers at the Republican Guard Officers College. The president then presented the new members of the Republican Guard with their swords.

[Begin Belaunde recording] To carry arms demands a great sense of responsibility. These arms will not be used to attack, but rather to defend, the citizenry.

The true dirty war is the infiltration war, that which originates abroad, not to serve the country but rather to eventually dominate it by imposing bizarre and alien doctrines. Fortunately, only a small misguided minority that suffers from an inferiority complex and that does not believe that Peru -- which has always played an important role in history -- is capable of generating and creating its own philosophical doctrines support these ideologies.

SHINING PATH STAGES ATTACK ON HUANCAVELICA

PY201752 Paris AFP in Spanish 1602 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Lima, 20 Dec (AFP) -- The Peruvian Armed Forces have imposed a curfew in Huancavelica, the capital of the Andean department of the same name, in the wake of a serious attack staged by the Shining Path in which a depot containing 800 cases of dynamite was blown up and the highway and railroad were sabotaged.

Last night, approximately 50 terrorists raided a dynamite depot of the Huancavelica Departmental Development Corporation, located outside the city. According to information received this morning, when the depot blew up, the explosion resembled an earthquake.

The extremists fled after stealing some of the 800 cases of dynamite from the depot which defended by two sentries. In fleeing they destroyed the Santa Rosa bridge and a small portion of the railroad track, both of which link Huancavelica with Huancayo, capital of the entire central region.

This violent raid, which inflicted damage worth 2 billion soles ($400,000) according to preliminary estimates, is the first to take place in this old mining town and also the first of the kind in the entire country after a 23-day break.

This morning, after the railroad track was repaired and a crossing was found for the trucks, it was discovered that terrorists also attacked a village near Huancavelica last night where they raided the office of the Transport and Communications Ministry, causing considerable damage.

Shortly after the attack, the Armed Forces, which have political and military control over the emergency zone, imposed a curfew from 2300 through 0500 in Huancavelica. The curfew is in addition to the measures implemented under the state of emergency which suspends individual guarantees and is in effect throughout the area.

23 GUERRILLAS KILLED DURING OPERATIONS

PY200138 Paris AFP in Spanish 2201 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Ayacucho, Peru, 19 Dec (AFP) -- Reliable sources reported today that five guerrillas from the Maoist Shining Path group died in a clash with police on 16 December in the Carhuaraca area, located north of this city.

Another 18 alleged members of subversive groups died during several operations carried out by the forces of order in Huamanga Province, which has Ayacucho as its capital, between 11 and 18 December, the sources added.

In addition, it was learned today in this Andean capital, located 575 km southeast of Lima, that a high school student, Victor Hugo Haedo, 19, was shot dead last night by police.

Moreover, a soldier was accidentally shot dead yesterday, 18 December, by a fellow soldier.

After the Carhuaraca clash, police confiscated a number of carbines, gunpowder, and propaganda material.

FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT GUYANA IN FEBRUARY

PA201941 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Venezuelan Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul's Plans for 1985 include one item of great interest: a trip to Guyana scheduled for the first half of February. The minister himself has announced that he will be in Guyana from 3 to 9 February. The importance of the visit, which will be made in response to an invitation by the Guyana Government, lies in the fact that it could open the door to an understanding. In fact, relations between the two countries have greatly improved and Morales Paul's upcoming visit to Guyana will bring the two countries closer to reaching a rational and, above all, peaceful solution.

ENERGY MINISTER: OPEC MEMBERS DISREGARD MEASURES

PA202220 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1623 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Geneva, 20 Dec (EFE) -- Arturo Hernandez Grisanti. Venezuelan minister for energy and mines, said here today that OPEC should take realistic measures and find adequate mechanisms to ensure that its 13 member countries abide by such measures.

Hernandez Grisanti told EFE: "The accords reached on 31 October, which reduce maximum production to 16 million barrels a day and maintain a $29-per-barrel reference price, did not yield the expected results because several member countries did not live up to their pledges."

He said: "We must prevent countries that pledge to fulfill their commitments from later sabotaging OPEC's actions." According to the minister, other outside factors, such as a benign winter season, rumors about a price-setting system to be implemented by Great Britain and Norway, and increased exports by oil-producing countries that are not OPEC members, such as the Soviet Union, have also had a negative effect.

He added: "Some OPEC member countries seem not to be aware of the difficult test that the organization is passing through; OPEC should be able to demonstrate that it really wants to define its influence in the market."

PATRIMONY DIRECTOR REINSTATED IN POST

PA202213 Paris AFP in Spanish 0301 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Caracas, 19 Dec (AFP) -- Alberto Garanton, head of the nation's Directorate for Historical Patrimony, was reinstated to his post today after it was confirmed that he had no part in Monday's failure to televise the ceremony to mark the 154th anniversary of liberator Simon Bolivar's death. This was the first time since the inception of Venezuelan television that the ceremony was not carried by the official network. Simon Bolivar, who liberated six Latin American nations from Spanish domination 150 years ago, is Venezuela's greatest hero. This omission led to President Jaime Lusinchi's order to dismiss Armando Duran, minister of information and tourism, his deputy minister, and Pedro Francisco Lizardo, president of the state television station. The Presidency of the Republic today announced that Geranton "had no responsibility for the incident and thus has been reinstated in his post."

PRI DEPUTY COMMENTS ON U.S. AMBASSADOR'S CONDUCT

PA201937 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 15 Dec 84 p 13 A

[Text] The Mexican Congress will not investigate or request the transfer of U.S. Ambassador John Gavin because it is not within our area of competence to do so, Deputy Luis Danton Rodriguez, president of the Foreign Relations Committee, has said, adding that the Secretariat of Foreign Relations will have to undertake that task.

We will only review the U.S. ambassador's diplomatic standing; the executive branch will take final action in this case, he explained.

He reported that Mexican and American legislators might discuss the issue during the upcoming interparliamentary meeting that will be held in Mexico in mid-1985.

The PRI legislator said that Ambassador Gavin has indeed failed to observe the rules of international diplomacy -- respect, consideration, and courtesy toward the country and institutions to which he is accredited -- fostering increasing displeasure among political parties and public opinion in general.

In view of this, he said, the Mexican people want to know what will be done about the insolence displayed by the ambassador of a friendly nation, he said.

The Mexican people want to know to what extent Mr Gavin's actions are impulsive and temperamental personal reactions and to what extent they indicate a particular policy on the part of the Reagan administration.

Referring to the many politically tinted statements made by John Gavin in Mexico, Danton Rodriguez said that thus far, authorities have been respectful toward the ambassador and assumed a cautious attitude because "there are reasons that prevent them from making a final decision."

Only the U.S. Government will be in the position to judge the ambassador's behavior, he said, and added that it is unacceptable that the behavior of only 1 of the 90 ambassadors accredited in this country affects Mexico's foreign relations.

DE LA MADRID NOTE ON DISARMAMENT, U.S.-USSR TALKS

PA201349 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 14 Dec 84 pp 1, 15

[By Jose Urena]

[Text] Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid said yesterday that disarmament efforts are the "fundamental element" of Mexico's foreign policy and advocated the denuclearization of Europe. Measures for the disarmament of Europe will be "a great step toward general and total disarmament under effective international control," he stressed.

The Mexican president sent a message to the second international conference for European denuclearization, which begins in Athens today, expressing the hope that the dialogue to be resumed next year between the great powers "will benefit detente and international relations and bring about an end of the arms race."

He also stated that "Europe has an important role for the preservation of international peace and security," emphasizing the importance of world public opinion in promoting this cause and the work that the United Nations has done in this field.

The conference is sponsored by the Movement for National Independence, World Peace, and Disarmament, which includes nongovernmental movements from Western and socialist bloc countries and from developing nations. Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou will read President de la Madrid's message today.

The president began his message by expressing support for the conference and added: "Mexican policy in the field of disarmament is the fundamental element of my country's foreign policy, which is based on full allegiance to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter."

In this respect, he continued, "Mexico has promoted bilateral and multilateral negotiation of agreements to bring about an end of the arms race at all levels and prevent the outbreak of nuclear war." The Mexican Government sees "great importance in mobilizing world public opinion in favor of disarmament and supports the work that the United Nations carries out in this field."

He noted Mexico's initiative to "create the first populated area free of nuclear weapons constituted by the Treaty of Tlatelolco," and indicated that since then Mexican foreign policy has been making efforts to establish other such areas and denuclearized corridors throughout the world.

De la Madrid continued his message by calling attention to the joint declaration signed by the presidents of Mexico, Argentina, and Tanzania, and the prime ministers of India, Greece, and Sweden on 22 May 1984 to promote talks between the USSR and the United States. Disarmament talks were cut off at that time and the destructive power of both powers was increasing. Recently, "the Mexican Government was pleased to learn that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko will meet in January 1985," De la Madrid said.

"Mexico hopes that the talks to be resumed next year between the two great powers will benefit detente and international relations and bring about an end of the arms race," he continued.

To conclude his 2 and 1/2 page letter, the Mexican president conveyed to conference participants "the support of the Mexican people and government for the efforts you conduct in your individual countries," and prayed that "the conference will give renewed momentum to the cause of peace and disarmament."

CUBANS SAID INTERESTED IN INCREASING TRADE

FL201518 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1749 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Monterrey, 19 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- Cuban Ambassador to Mexico Jose A. Fernandez de Cossio has stated that the Cuban Government is interested in increasing its trade relations with industries in the State of Nuevo Leon in northern Mexico. The diplomat told Nuevo Leon Governor Alfonso Martinez Dominguez of his interest in meeting with businessmen from the state (one of the most industrialized of the country), and particularly with the managers of companies such as those of the Vitro Group, Fama Company, and the most important companies in the metal-mechanical area. Fernandez de Cossio, accompanied by other Cuban Embassy officials, expressed admiration for the rapid rate of change of the city of Monterrey and the way in which local industry has confronted the crisis.

He said he could reach an agreement to carry out exchanges in the industrial area, preferably in the production of machinery and bearings.

Further Remarks

FL200250 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0120 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Monterrey, 19 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- Cuban Ambassador to Mexico Jose Armando Fernandez de Cossio reported here today that the 1984 Mexican-Cuban oil exports continued while exports of Cuban sugar ceased because of Mexico's self-sufficiency.

In an interview with NOTIMEX, the Cuban diplomat, who has been visiting industrial installations in northern Mexico for the past 3 days, said the balance of trade was very unfavorable: Cuban exports to Mexico totaled only $5 million, while Mexican exports to Cuba amounted to $100 million.

The Cuban ambassador said that present trade, cultural, and educational relations with Mexico are very good and very positive and that there are important relations with the businessmen of Nuevo Leon, a state that exports a large part of the products Cuba needs. Cuba, the ambassador said, is Mexico's fifth most important buyer of products other than crude oil, for which reason this visit has the goal of exploring import possibilities by increasing existing trade relations. He stressed that the present unfavorable balance of trade in a sugar-producing nation such as Cuba affects its trade with other nations.

JANUARY-SEPTEMBER EXPORT SURPLUS REPORTED

FL201602 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0035 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Mexico, 19 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- Manuel Armendariz, director of the Mexican Institue of Foreign Trade (IMCE), has reported that Mexico registered an export surplus of between $13 and $13.5 billion in 1984. In the first 9 months of the year, Mexican exports amounted to $10 billion, while nonpetroleum exports grew by 25 percent. He stated that the growth of nonpetroleum exports was not as pronounced as the fluctuations in the price of crude oil on the international market, but it exceeded by four points the official predictions made at the beginning of the year. He said that in 1985, at least a 20-percent increase in the sale of nonpetroleum products will be required in order to maintain the level of export necessary to attract foreign currency.

CREDIT AGREEMENT FOR METRO SIGNED WITH FRANCE

FL201628 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0220 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican representatives today signed a credit for 8.86 billion pesos (Fr400 million), from the French banking sector to continue work on the Mexico City metro. The agreement was signed in Paris by the secretary general of planning and evaluation of the Federal District, Arturo Gonzalez, and French Foreign Trade Minister Edith Cresson. The credit operation is based on the French-Mexican financial protocol signed on 23 November by the Mexican Finance Secretariat and the French Ministry of Industrial Redeployment and Foreign Trade. Thirty percent of this obligation will be paid out over a 30-year period with an 11 and 1/2 year grace period and an interest rate of 2 percent per year. The remaining 70 percent of the credit will be in the form of commerical credits by the French state. It will be paid over 10 years at a 12 percent annual rate.

PSUM DOCUMENT VIEWS COUNTRY'S MOVEMENT TOWARD RIGHT

PA202312 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 17 Dec 84 p 2

[By Jose Luis Uribe O.]

[Text] The Mexican leftist sector and democratic forces may turn back the country's current movement toward the right, according to the United Socialist Party of Mexico, PSUM, which remarked that the real political currents will test their force during the 1985 elections. These elections will provide an important opportunity to stop the Mexican political and social movement toward the right.

The PSUM asserted in an official document that the move toward the right not only means broader electoral space for the traditional right-wing parties, but also means that the National Action Party, PAN, showed a gain in the 1982 elections, which was reasserted in subsequent local elections, especially in the northern areas of the country.

Nevertheless, the document adds, the PAN has only issued a group of slogans opposing corruption and advocating good government. These slogans have been effective among those who are tired of the many years of unfulfilled promises by the official party and the government and who have been affected by the economic crisis.

The document also said that the PAN's electoral gain, although it does not represent widespread voting against the official party, represents a sizable number of votes proving the people are unhappy and are not adhering to the traditional right-wing sector's policy. In addition, it indicates the presence of a social basis for a conservative policy, especially among the middle class sector, which has seen its social stability and standard of living endangered in less than 2 years.

The PSUM criticized PAN's efforts to consolidate that electoral sector, which proves the latter's lack of a program which is essentially different from the PRI's program. When in government, the PAN members act in the same way as the PRI administrations, and sometimes even worse, the document adds.

Referring to the government's policies, the document asserts that they have made one concession after another to the bourgeoisie's interests and to the most reactionary concepts within and outside of the government. They are economic, political, and legislative concessions.

The official document asserted that the government's policy to reduce the influence of the union movements and peasant movements, and its aggressiveness toward democratic universities is evidence of this conduct.

Thus, it adds, the government is trying to recover the trust of the businessman who have been lately supporting the PAN. The goal is to unite the traditional rightist sector with the institutionalist right wing.

Lastly, the PSUM asserted that the movement toward the right is a real phenomenon. This will only be halted by the leftist sector and democracy if enough forces are accumulated, alliances are formed, and a political program created, to attract the great masses which are currently confused.

BELIZE

LEGISLATURE TO BEGIN NEW SESSION 21 DECEMBER

FL210140 Bridgetown CANA in English 2219 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, Dec 20, CANA -- New Belizean Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel and elected representatives of his ruling United Democratic Party (UDP) take their parliamentary seats for the first time tomorrow when a new session of the expanded 28-seat legislature opens.

The UDP ended the 30-year rule of former Prime Minister George Price's Peoples United Party (PUP) in an upset general election victory a week ago. The UDP won 21 of the 28 seats in the poll that produced a personal defeat for Price in his constituency.

Government workers were busy getting the chamber ready for the ceremony, to be presided over by Governor-General Dame Minta Gordon. The new pro-Washington administration has declared tomorrow afternoon a public holiday. It is also organising a rally and street carnival for Belize City, the former capital, over the weekend to celebrate the victory.

The governor-general today announced the appointment of eight senators -- five appointed on the advice of the prime minister, two by the leader of the opposition, and one by the governor-general herself. The senators will join their elected colleagues in tomorrow's ceremony, to be witnessed by 400 invited guests.

COSTA RICA

FOREIGN MINISTER, SHULTZ DISCUSS CONTADORA

PA202056 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] At the conclusion of his tour through several Asian countries and the United States, Foreign Relations Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez today met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. During the meeting, which lasted over 2 hours, both officials exchanged points of view and analyzed the Central American political situation as well as the advances made by the Contadora Group.

Costa Rica and the United States have once again reiterated, according to a telephone report from Foreign Minister Gutierrez, their desire to attain peace in Central America as soon as possible. As long as there is no peace in Central America and differences are not solved, it will not be possible to have peace in the region, the two officials noted. The two said that their countries are interested in a continuation of the Contadora Group.

Gutierrez and Shultz discussed the subject of a new peace treaty (?draft) for Central America since such a document is fundamental in finding a negotiated political solution to the conflictive situation in the region.

CIVIL REGISTRY DISSOLVES UNITED PEOPLE'S COALITION

PA202133 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Rafael Villegas, director of the Civil Registry office, has issued a resolution dissolving the United People's Coalition.

The ruling establishes that existence of the coalition of the leftist parties was extended by the Civil Registry based on a 12 March 1981 agreement. It is believed that Alvaro Montero, president of the Costa Rican Socialist Party [PSC] and Sergio Erick Ardon, president of the Workers Party [New Republic Movement-MNR] have presented official minutes of their respective parties' national assemblies during which they broke with the coalition of the Popular Vanguard Party [PVP] to form the United People Coalition.

The resolution notes that the coalition involving the PVP, the PSC and the MNR is declared nonexistent. Political circles have said that as a result of this ruling, the communist organizations will not be entitled to the advanced political subsidy [deuda politica adelantada] privilege that is based on the percentage of votes obtained in the 1982 elections.

UNHCR OFFICIALS DENY REFUGEES BEING DETAINED

PA202144 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0020 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] San Jose, 18 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Spokesmen for the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and for the International Aid organization today denied that Costa Rica is forcefully detaining 4,000 Nicaraguan peasants. In Managua, a Sandinist sublieutenant charged that "some 4,000 Nicaraguan peasants are being forcefully detained in the Costa Rican territory of Tilaran, where they are being forced to work without pay."

A top UNHCR official, who did not want to be identified, insisted that the UNHCR "would never allow such a thing." This official explained that there are only 1,500 Nicaraguan refugees in Tilaran and that they are allowed to move about at will and are receiving medical attention, food, shelter, clothing and other services.

The UNHCR provides the necessary funds to pay for these services, and International Aid provides the assistance to the refugees. The latter group is under the supervision of the National Commission for Refugees (CONAPARE).

International Aid General Director Fernando Castillo told ACAN-EFE that most of the 1,500 Nicaraguan refugees in Tilaran are working and earning a salary. Castillo commented that there was no need to guard the refugees because "none of them are trying to go anywhere," as they are satisfied with the treatment and services they are receiving. The Rural Guard protects the shelter to ensure the safety and peace of mind of the Nicaraguans living there, the general director added.

EL SALVADOR

FDR'S UNGO PROPOSES U.S. PARTICIPATE IN DIALOGUE

FL210040 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2215 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Mexico City, 20 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- Guillermo Ungo, FDR president, said here today the Salvadoran insurgents have proposed to the Salvadoran Government that the third meeting of the two sides be held in San Salvador during the second half of January. During a press conference, the Salvadoran insurgent leader said they had proposed 27 December for the renewal of the dialogue initiated in La Palma on 15 July but, because of the lack of any reply from the government, they decided to postpone the proposed meeting until January.

The FMLN and the FDR now propose that the next round of talks be held in the Salvadoran capital and last 2 days.

Ungo said the situation of the Salvadoran Government and President Napoleon Duarte is made very difficult by the participation of the extreme right. He said Duarte made certain concessions to the extreme right and is now in a straitjacket and must respond to pressure to keep his pledge to dialogue. He said that, although Duarte has said there will be a third meeting of governmental and insurgent representatives, it is difficult to foresee the contradictions that exist within the Armed Forces, which contain sectors that favor dialogue and sectors that reject dialogue. He said that to find a political solution to the problem in El Salvador the U.S. Government must participate in the dialogue because, without the intervention of the Ronald Reagan administration in that Central American country, the conflict would have been resolved a long time ago. He said U.S. Government aid to the Salvadoran regime has reached $1 billion, that is, $1 million a day.

He said the next objective of the insurgents is to achieve the continuation of the dialogue and a common agenda to obtain results that will assure political, military, and humanitarian progress. It is necessary, he added, that there at least be agreement on the need for dialogue. The insurgents spoke of the need for a national forum in which all Salvadoran sectors would participate, to arrive in this way at a national consensus regarding a solution to the conflict in that country.

Further on Dialogue

PA210133 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0058 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 20 Dec (EFE) -- The Salvadoran political-military opposition said today in this capital that, in its opinion, the peace dialogue taking place in their country should include the United States.

"We consider the United States part of the conflict, therefore the peace dialogue should include the Reagan administration," said Hector Oqueli, member of the FDR political-diplomatic commission.

Regarding the Christmas cease-fire proposed by the guerrilla groups, Ungo said that "despite the earlier agreement, the government later demanded unacceptable conditions, including an end to political hostilities, so it was impossible to soldify anything." Despite this, the guerrilla organizations will cease hostilities for "3 days during Christmas and 3 days during the new year period, and they will only repel any attack against their forces," he said.

Ungo arrived last Sunday night in this capital, "where I have met with high Foreign Secretariat officials to assert our gratitude for Mexico's efforts in favor of a negotiated solution to the Salvadoran conflict." Even though he asserted: "I have not met with Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda," and due to the reporters' insistent questions, the leader of the Salvadoran political-military opposition said: "Not all of my visits to Mexico have a political character."

Mexico guaranteed the transfer of the guerrilla groups' representatives to Salvadoran territory for the second round of the peace dialogue with the government, which was held in Ayagualo, 17 km from San Salvador.

No Progress Made in Talks

PA202347 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 17 Dec 84 p 3

[Text] Upon arriving at Mexico City yesterday, Guillermo Ungo, president of El Salvador's FDR, stated that no progress has been achieved in the dialogue between the Salvadoran Government and opposition due to the unwillingness of the ruling authorities.

Ungo said that he has come to Mexico to hold a series of work sessions with Salvadoran groups regarding the guerrillas' strategies so that solutions for the conflict can be found.

Ungo also said that it was time for Pope John Paul II to state his position regarding the conflict because he has been devoting more attention to matters other than those of Central America. Ungo warned that the pope's prayers will be of little help if Ronald Reagan's inflexible, dogmatic, and warlike policy continues. Ungo added that the U.S. bases in Honduras have aggravated the situation and this fact has prevented an agreement.

Ungo then stressed that the Salvadoran Government's proposals for the guerrillas are neither definite nor clear: Murder and repression have continued in El Salvador. This has prevented any agreement which could end the extermination of fellow Salvadorans.

GUATEMALA

ARMY DENIES REBEL STATEMENT ON CASUALTIES

PA202153 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] The Army today rejected a report stating that subversives had inflicted many Army casualties in the past few months. The insurgent groups recently issued a report which was rejected today by Colonel Hector Rosales Salaverria, official spokesman for the Guatemalan Army.

[Begin recording] Military actions against the guerrillas have been very limited. The Army has been freeing the peasants who had been in the hands of the rebels, and bulletins have been issued to this effect. A large group of peasants were freed in the past month. This group had been trained by the subversive groups, which fled once they detected the presence of the Army. We reported on this when it happened, and there is nothing more to say than what has already reported.

This kind of information which is issued abroad is not true. We did not react to this information because it is all lies, and we do not pay too much attention to this. We are working seriously; we are concerned with the problems of the peasants; we are defending them; and we do not have time to go around inventing stories or issuing false information. We do not get involved in things like that. [end recording]

ANDRADE SAYS POSITION ON CONTADORA UNCHANGED

PA201237 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran has said that the Guatemalan Government's position on the Contadora peace document is invariable, and has not been changed. Reports published yesterday by a news agency stated that the Guatemalan Government had reconsidered its position on the Contadora Document, and was waiting for the other three U.S. allies in Central America to present other modifications to the document in January.

Foreign Minister Andrade, who had reportedly made the statement, said today that Guatemala has not yet decided to support the modifications to the Contadora Document proposed by Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador, which coincide with the position taken by the U.S. Government.

Today Andrade said that Guatemala maintains a flexible and reasonable attitude supporting the efforts of the Contadora Group foreign ministers, in view of the fact that this group is now compiling the observations made by some Central American governments in relation to the document presented for Guatemala's review.

HONDURAS

U.S. LINKS FURTHER AID TO RAMIREZ LAND ISSUE

PA200323 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Dec 84 p 3

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- The outcome of the negotiations between the Governments of Honduras and the United States to revise the 1954 military treaty has been conditioned to a favorable solution by Honduras to the demand made by U.S. citizen Temistocles Ramirez in relation to the occupation of his lands in Puerto Castilla.

An official source has confirmed that the Honduran Government has been advised that the U.S. Congress will not debate any proposal to increase military and economic aid to Honduras so long as the Ramirez matter is still unsettled.

This warning has already been made to the Honduran negotiating commission that visited Washington in late November to begin the talks to achieve a change in the terms of economic and military cooperation with the United States. The talks will be renewed tomorrow in Tegucigalpa with the arrival of a U.S. commission led by General John Schein of the U.S. Department of Defense. This was confirmed recently by Ubodoro Arriaga, Honduran secretary of the Presidency.

As everyone knows, U.S. citizen Ramirez was deprived of his lands in Trujillo when the Regional Military Training Center, CREM, was built. CREM, under the direction of U.S. instructors, has served to train more than 3,000 Salvadoran soldiers. Following a decision adopted by the Honduran Armed Forces, the training of Salvadoran soldiers was temporarily suspended, and that training will not be renewed until after the negotiations with the United States have concluded.

In view of the Honduran Government's inability to pay the $17 million that Ramirez is demanding for his land, it was decided that the CREM would be relocated to an area near where it is currently operating.

However, President Roberto Suazo Cordova's government, which yielded to U.S. pressures to allow the operation of this military training center used almost excusively for the training of Salvadoran soldiers, is now between a rock and a hard place because, on the one hand Ramirez is not satisfied with having his land back, and, on the other hand, the United States is demanding a solution to this problem.

An estimate by Honduran authorities has established that Ramirez' land is worth $4 million; however he is asking for $17 million. Ramirez' lawyers have said that their client is not willing to accept the land as if nothing had happened, because it was illegally seized and occupied. Now he is demanding that the Honduran Government pay him for damages and loss of profits. Apparently Suazo Cordova's government will have to pay for having served the interests of the United States and El Salvador, otherwise there will be no new increases in military and economic aid.

M-LIDER LEADER ON GROUP'S STATUS, POLICIES

PA202136 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Interview with Carlos Roberto Reina, leader of the Liberal Revolutionary Democratic Movement, M-LIDER, by Jose Emilio Soriano; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Soriano] In what political direction is Carlos Roberto Reina, who has been nominated presidential candidate by the M-LIDER, going? We ask this because this faction is not legally recognized within the Liberal Party of Honduras [PLH].

[Reina] Jose Emilio, it is very opportune that we refer to this topic in order to avoid confusion as a result of some comments we have heard. The M-LIDER is not registered in the PLH because we reached the conclusion when we were the People's Liberal Alliance that such registration before arbitrary persons is absolutely worthless.

[Soriano] Doesn't this mean that you are alienating yourself?

[Reina] No, we would be alienating ourselves if we did not want to participate. When one is brutally trampled on, as occurred when the election results were not issued and when idenfitication cards or the location of the ballot boxes were not given, all the conditions for elections were grossly adulterated. Our most minimum right as Liberals was not recognized. It is absurd to continue to insist that registration is necessary to conduct politics. Politics is conducted on the basis of realities. What we have wanted to show is the political and emotional reality of absolute firmness and decency that makes up the M-LIDER. This has been shown because the people have been able to see and hear it.

[Soriano] Isn't the fact that you have not registered somewhat idealistic?

[Reina] In no way, because we have said we will participate [in the elections] in 1985.

[Soriano] In what way?

[Reina] We plan to participate through a great national front. This is being discussed and organized and is going well.

[Soriano] Who would form this national front?

[Reina] All Hondurans who think democratically.

[Soriano] Under what would they gather?

[Reina] The front. There is no contradiction. It is a great alliance of democratic forces that has a very simple way of acting in its first phase: a front of opposition agianst all the arbitrary acts of the government.

[Soriano] Will you knock on the doors of other dissident factions in the National Party and the PLH and take advantage of the political capital of the Innovation and Unity Party and Christian Democracy, which in some ways have begun to crumble?

[Reina] All Hondurans who feel their rights are threatened and all Hondurans who have not given up the struggle to improve their country should join this great alliance. This great alliance is the historic lesson needed by a group that has become drunk with power. That great alliance awaits with open arms all those who want efficient political action in 1985. It is logical that the details will emerge in due time. Their is a gestation period, and already in that period it has been attacked. It has been directly attacked by the Honduran president.

[Soriano] It has been said that you have been disrespectful toward the president with some metaphors in previous speeches.

[Reina] The president deserves respect from all Hondurans. He must be above political goings-on. However, there is a special situation affecting our friend, Dr Suazo Cordova. He has the split role of being president and being general coordinator of the Rodist Movement. He has a problem. If he acts as general coordinator of the internal movement of the party he exposes himself to our replies to him as such because that is democracy.

FORMER FUSEP CHIEF ALLOWED TO RETURN TO COUNTRY

PA200438 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Dec 84 p 4

[By Marco Tulio Romero]

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Daniel Bali Castillo, the ousted Honduran general, will return to the country some time this week. This information was given exclusively to LA PRENSA. The arrival in Honduras of the former commander of the Public Security Forces, FUSEP, has become this week's news.

Bali Castillo will arrive in Tegucigalpa from Lima, Peru, on 21 or 22 December. Bali Castillo was sent to Lima as military attache at the Honduran Embassy in that country. The militaryman is returning to retire as a result of the reorganization of the Armed Forces.

His arrival in Honduras had been expected last Saturday, but flight schedules made his arrival impossible and his trip was canceled until next Friday.

The Honduran Government and the military high command decided on General Bali Castillo's return.

The former FUSEP commander was abruptly ousted from office on 31 March 1984, together with General Gustavo Adolfo Alvarez Martinez, former chief of the Honduran Armed Forces; General Humberto Montoya, commander of the Honduran Navy; and General Jose Abdenego Bueso Rosa, joint chief of staff. A decision adopted by the Superior Council and President Roberto Suazo Cordova's government allowed these officers to receive a diplomatic post abroad, except for General Alvarez Martinez.

For more than 8 months General Bali Castillo has been the military attache in Lima, and there has been total silence regarding his activities.

General Montoya was sent to China to fill the post of military attache, and General Bueso Rosa is under arrest in the Chilean capital city.

NICARAGUA

4-MONTH WATER RATIONING IN MANAGUA ANNOUNCED

PA201806 Paris AFP in Spanish 1835 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Managua, 19 Dec (AFP) -- The 700,000 inhabitants of Managua will be subjected to rationing of potable water 2 days a week for the next 4 months, according to the Nicaraguan Water and Sewage Institute (INAA). The measure was adopted in view of a "dangerous" drop in the level of Asososca Lagoon, in the northwest sector of the Nicaraguan capital, which is the main source of water.

The inhabitants of this hot city consume 44 million gallons daily, while the Asososca Lagoon only has a capacity for 16 million, according to INAA studies. Due to the population growth and to constant damaging of the pipes, the lagoon's level has dropped to 35 meters above sea level. Once it drops to 33 meters "the pumps will be at their suction limit and the situation may worsen," an INAA spokesman said.

Meanwhile, the director of the institute, Otoniel Arguello, revealed that the World Bank had refused to grant a $40-million credit to Nicaragua for new sources of water supply. Under such conditions, the capital's residents must face rationing in December, January, February, and March, prior to the rainy season, which will again raise the lagoon's water level.

U.S. GROUP'S PLAN AGAINST INVASION NOTED

PA201710 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 19 Dec 84 p 3

[By Daniel Martinez]

[Text] The pro-Reagan media of the United States and Nicaragua have been involved in a subtle but constant campaign against a U.S. group known as "Witness for Peace" (Permanent Christian Action for Peace) because of its solidarity with Nicaragua. To the extent that the aggressiveness of the Reagan administration against our country increases, this and other solidarity groups are also increasing their humanitarian activities to break the wall of misinformation surrounding our revolution and to promote, in the United States, actions that stop the intervention efforts.

It is not surprising that we find an increase in the attacks of this campaign in the next few days. The reason? Witness for Peace has coordinated a contingency plan in the United States in the event of a U.S. invasion of Nicaragua and is involved in efforts to maintain the presence of American Christians in the areas under the worst threat of a war in our country. The work of these American Christians and pacifists is not to Mr Reagan's liking. It is also not to the liking of those who, inside Nicaragua, want an invasion to recover old privileges. This is the reason why they see a "need to try to carry out their humanitarian campaign."

The actions carried out in the United States have been very positive and have resulted in the mobilization of Christians and pacifists who are demanding that senators and congressmen voice their opposition to the CIA's plans for a secret war. They also got widespread coverage from the international media when they boarded a fishing boat and sailed to the site where a U.S. warship was violating our waters to urge it to leave our coasts. Their actions for peace makes them enemies of those who want war and their desire to prevent a direct U.S. intervention deserves the respect of everyone who rejects war as a mechanism of foreign policy.

The plan for massive public resistance consists of the following: 1) A signal to take action will be sent to all groups at the state or regional level. 2) All those involved will go to a previously assigned church in their communities throughout the country. The churches will become places of prayer, mutual support, information contacts, planning, of other actions. 3) A peaceful vigil will be established in the offices of senators and congressmen. These offices will be kept occupied peacefully until Congress votes to stop the invasion. 4) A large group, made up of delegations from each area, will go to Washington to stage a demonstration of peaceful civil disobedience in front of the White House to demand an end to the invasion. 5) The U.S. citizens residing in Nicaragua will coordinate their actions in our country with this plan and, if possible, new delegations will come to the country to support their effort to stop the invasion.

As one may see, Nicaragua has many friends among the U.S. people and their actions deserve to be known and supported by the Nicaraguans. Only those who cannot be called Nicaraguans could ignore the Christian and humanitarian value that these actions for peace have. Witness for Peace's contingency plan deserves the respect and support of everyone who rejects imperialism's interventionist policy against our country.

CHAMORRO BARRIOS REMOVED AS LA PRENSA CODIRECTOR

PA210207 Paris AFP in Spanish 0058 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Managua, 20 Dec (AFP) -- The board of directors of LA PRENSA, the opposition newspaper, today decided to remove Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios as codirector of the newspaper. Last week Chamorro Barrios chose to live in self-exile in Costa Rica. The board of directors reported that the decision to remove Chamorro Barrios from his office was made "with his consent."

Jaime Chamorro, who replaced Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios as codirector and who had been this evening newspaper's general manager for the past 10 years, said that "the office of codirector calls for the physical presence of the person holding the office, and we were, therefore, forced to adopt this measure."

The board of directors, formed by Violeta Barrios (Pedro Joaquin's mother), Pablo Antonio Cuadra, LA PRENSA director, and Jaime Chamorro has expressed its solidarity with the charges made abroad by the former codirector in the sense that in Nicaragua "there is no freedom of expression."

"LA PRENSA is under the obligation, as it was in the past, to continue struggling for the complete reestablishment of freedom in the country, for democracy to function, and for Nicaragua to be a republic once again," the communique stated. Meanwhile, on 19 December the LA PRENSA board of directors brought a complaint before the Court of Justice in which it accuses the government of going too far with its censorship.

IRANIAN AMBASSADOR MEETS FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER

LD200444 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 19, IRNA -- Nicaragua and Iran discussed the possible exchange of political and trade and delegation in Managua today. Iranian Ambassador in Managua, Mohammad Payrovi, met with Nicaragua's minister of foreign trade, Alejandro Martinez, and held talks on bilateral political and economic ties.

ARDE SAYS USSR SENDS ARMS IN MEDICINE CRATES

PA210404 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2230 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] The Soviet Union is sending arms to Nicaragua in medicine crates. The USSR's policy in the Third World, particularly in Nicaragua, is the arms race. The Russian Communists send arms to fan the fires in Central America. The Soviet Union has promised to support peace and make an effort to alleviate human misery. It tries, however, to exacerbate it.

During the past few months authorities from several countries have succeeded in learning that shipments from the Soviet Union to the Managua totalitarian regime -- marked as medicines -- really contained arms. The communist countries view with indifference the fact that our peoples shed their blood or starve to death. These countries are only really interested in maintaining their hegemonic and expansionist interests in the Central American region.

With much fanfare, the nine Marxist-Leninists announce to the people the various commercial and medical assistance treaties that the Soviet Union has signed with the government. The nine, however, never tell the people that these commercial and medical assistance treaties only disguise the real military assistance that leads our Nicaraguan brothers to death, desolation, and grief. Democratic Revolutionary Alliance discloses for our people the war policy maintained by the nine national serfs who, disregarding the misery and shortages that our country suffers, choose arms over food.

ARDE ANNOUNCES PASTORA'S RETURN FROM U.S.

PA201522 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2230 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, reports to all Nicaraguans, particularly our brother combatants in southern and central Nicaragua, that our undeniable commander, creator, and leader of ARDE, Eden Pastora Gomez, is again leading the peasant insurrection inside our fatherland after completing a successful tour of the United States, more specifically Florida, where he was acclaimed by thousands of democratic citizens of Cuban and Nicaraguan origin.

When these citizens heard our commander's message from the peasants who are fighting for Nicaragua with clubs, stones, machetes, and knives, they began an outpouring of aid that will soon be in the hands of these thousands and thousands of men who are patriotically devoted to the peasant insurrection as a standard bearer of freedom.

Our commander Eden Pastura Gomez is here, peasant friends!

Free fatherland or kill!

MONTANE OROPESA MEETS ZAMBIA'S MUSUKA DELEGATION

FL201800 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate Politburo member and member of the party's Central Committee Secretariat, has met with a delegation from the OAU's committee of liberation, presided by Otema Musuka, Zambia's minister of state for foreign affairs. At the friendly meeting, the distinguished visitor gave a detailed explanation of the measures agreed upon at the 40th regular session of the OAU's liberation committee for increasing international solidarity.

SOVIET MARSHAL KURKOTKIN VISITS FAR ACADEMY

FL201630 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1425 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Soviet Marshal Semen Kurkotkin, deputy defense minister, chief of the Rear Services, CPSU Central Committee member, and Hero of the Soviet Union, has visited General Maximo Gomez Revolutionary Armed Forces Academy in Havana. He was welcomed by Brigadier General Manuel Fernandez, who stressed that the academy would not be able to show its achievements without the USSR's help.

CAMACHO AGUILERA MEETS EAST BERLIN DEPUTY MAYOR

FL201528 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Julio Camacho Aguilera, Politburo member and party first secretary in Havana has met at the party headquarters with Joachim Boettger, East Berlin deputy mayor, who is heading a delegation visiting our country.

R. CASTRO ATTENDS RECEPTION AT VIETNAM EMBASSY

FL201210 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Army General Raul Castro, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], has attended a reception at the Embassy of Vietnam in Havana for the Vietnamese National Army's 40th anniversary. The Vietnamese Embassy's military, naval, and air force attache extended the invitation to Raul Castro.

$3.5 BILLION FOREIGN DEBT REFINANCED IN PARIS

PA201405 Paris AFP in Spanish 1922 GMT 17 Dec 84

[Text] Paris, 17 Dec (AFP) -- Cuba has signed an agreement in Paris to reschedule payments on debts due in 1984, sources in Credit Lyonnais, a nationalized French bank, have confirmed. The sources reported that the entire medium-term debt to commercial banks due between 1 January and 31 December 1984, which totals $100 million, was refinanced in a 9-year contract that grants a 5-year grace period.

The applicable margin on Eurodollar rates is 1 and 7/8, while those refinanced on national rates is 1 5/8, the Credit Lyonnais source indicated. Credit Lyonnais is presided over by the Coordinating Committee of Creditor Banks.

Cuba's foreign debt totals $3.5 billion, the sources reported, adding that banks have agreed to extend until 30 September 1985 the treasury lines in favor of the National Bank of Cuba (BNC). The Cuban delegation that negotiated the agreement was presided over by BNC Vice President Raul Amado-Blanco.

'OUR AMERICA' ON IMMIGRATION AGREEMENT WITH U.S.

PA210310 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 19 Dec 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Presenting the United States as a paradise of democracy and champion for the defense of human rights throughout the world has been a traditional policy of U.S. Governments. This image began to be instilled in the minds of millions of people the day that the broadcast media became the most powerful instrument to communicate ideas. In this manner, the U.S. society became, for many people, the ideal model for social formation. This propaganda became very strong during the 1940's and the 1950's and began to decline following the triumph of the Cuban revolution and the expansion of the national liberation movements around the world. However, today this system still fools many people.

Washington's policy caused the immigration of hundreds of thousands of people who were searching for a new horizon. The Latin American and Caribbean countries became, and in many cases still are, the main sources of immigrants. It is not just a coincidence that a high percentage of the people who live in the United States, especially in the southern states, are of Latin American origin.

However, the U.S. reality is separate from the propaganda spread by the ideologists of imperialism. Haitians, Cubans, Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, and citizens of other Latin American countries, and even European countries, are being discriminated against in the United States because of the color of their skin, their origin, and their social situation. These minorities are the most exploited and in striving to get ahead, most of them are forced to accept low paying jobs, jobs that involve risks, and less respected jobs, that is, if they can even find a job. In the past 4 years some 30 million people have, at one time or another, been jobless in the United States.

On many occasions the U.S. leaders used the subject of immigration as a political weapon and in this sense have used it in an attempt to destabilize governments, as was the case of Cuba during the early sixties. Washington encouraged the immigration of professionals in an attempt to leave the Cuban revolution without technicians, doctors, engineers, and other specialists which were necessary for the development of the country.

After the October crisis, in 1962, the U.S. authorities stopped all flights to Cubs and left dozens of Cuban families beyind after they had already received their permits to leave. The U.S. then encouraged illegal immigration and hundreds of Cuban citizens, mostly antisocials, stole planes and boats to travel to the United States where they were received as heroes.

The Cuban Government repeatedly warned the United States regarding the danger of this situation and urged them to adopt measures to put an end to this situation. The Cuban charges were ignored and, more and more, such actions continued.

It was only a few days ago when the U.S. authorities became aware of this situation and agreed to sign an agreement on immigration with Cuba. Through this agreement some 20,000 Cuban immigrants will be allowed to enter the United States every year and some 2,700 antisocials who left our country after the incident that occurred at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana in 1980 will return to the country.

When speaking of the policy followed by the United States regarding Cuban immigration, Cuba's highest leader, Fidel Castro, said that this policy continued for 20 years because of capacity of the U.S. leaders to foresee the future.

With the agreement signed on immigration last week between Cuba and the United States [words indistinct] and conditions are created to put an end to the illegal immigration, tolerance and receiving as heroes those who illegally try to reach the United States. Cuba, Fidel Castro said, commits itself to fulfilling the letter of the agreement with the seriousness and responsibility it has displayed for the almost 26 years of revolutionary power.

U.S. OFFICIAL'S REMARKS ON CUBA TIES NOTED

PA202015 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Kenneth Skoug, director of the State Department's Office of Cuban Affairs, has expressed new lies and attacks on the Cuban Government and stressed the intention of U.S. President Ronald Reagan to continue his anti-Cuban policy.

In a report presented to the Carnegie International Peace Organization, Skoug noted that the agreement on immigration signed between Cuba and the United States recently does not mean that bilateral relations have improved. He reiterated the accusation that Cuba is a threat to the hemisphere but he did not mention the history of threats and U.S. aggression against the Cuban people since the victory of the revolution 25 years ago or against the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, and Grenada, among others.

'OUR AMERICA' CALLS GRENADA SITUATION 'BLEAK'

PA200344 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 17 Dec 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Grenada's Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement has decided to organize a people's parliament in opposition to the legislature constituted after the fraudulent Grenadian election of 3 December, held under the auspices of U.S. occupation forces.

The movement's top leader, Kendrick Radix, said at a political rally that there is concern over the way in which the elections were held. The New National Party, financed by Washington, won by a landslide. The Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement believes that the electoral ballots were chemically treated to ensure a victory for Herbert Blaize, who was hastily proclaimed prime minister only moments after the vote tally had concluded. Radix said that a people's parliament will be created to represent the people's real concern and aspirations, despite the fraudulent victory of the New National Party and its virtual takeover of parliament.

U.S. intervention in Grenada was undoubtedly a determining factor in the outcome of the election. The presence of U.S. military troops and forces of Caribbean puppet regimes on the island helped create an atmosphere of repression. Washington sent substantial funds and advisers [words indistinct] Herbert Blaize and his followers. With the assistance of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, ballots were surely treated with invisible ink, thus giving the New National Party the victory that would ease its ascent to paper after [word indistinct] 14 of the 15 legislature seats.

The overwhelming fraud produced such surprise that even former dictator Eric Gairy and his United Labor Party were moved to refuse acceptance of the only seat they obtained in the elections.

The new prime minister will face a difficult situation despite U.S. support. After 1 year of U.S. military occupation, Grenadians are experiencing a harsh economic crisis bordering on poverty, Western media have reported.

Maurice Bishop, killed during the tragic developments that preceded the Yankee military invasion, was able to sustain 5.5 percent economic growth, higher than that of all other Caribbean states; he brought down unemployment; he began construction of the so longed-for Point Salines airport; and he implemented cost-free education and health services. Occupation forces have destroyed these achievements one by one. At present, unemployment is at almost 40 percent; vices imported from the United States are on the rise; and there seems to be no end in sight to the presence of interventionist forces.

The French daily LE MATIN reports that life in Grenada is very difficult. Electrical power is rationed; drinking water is scarce; roads are in disrepair; and there is chronic unemployment.

Amid this bleak picture, Herbert Blaize's first task will be to clear the air, calm the people, and convince them that the country has returned to safe paths. It appears that to achieve this goal the priority will be to keep the aggressor troops on Grenada; this was one of Blaize's electoral pledges, along with the commitment to seek U.S. financing, which will bring higher indebtedness to burdened Grenada.

In any event, the image and example of Maurice Bishop will not be erased from the memories and hearts of the Grenadian people. There will be no imperialist scheme able to obtain such a sinister goal, on which Washington and its local agents are intent.

COMMENTARY ON NAMIBIA'S INDEPENDENCE, APARTHEID

PA201303 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Dec 84

["World Events" commentary]

[Text] The imperialist plans to link Namibia's independence to the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist troops who have stayed in Angola by the sovereign will of this country's government have not succeeded in gaining acceptance by the world public opinion. Quite the contrary, these plans have been rejected by the African nations that maintain honest, progressive stances.

In their effort to perpetuate their presence on Namibian soil, ignoring the United Nations' reiterated pleas to grant independence to this nation, the Pretoria regime and its Western allies plotted a clumsy diversionary maneuver that pretends to make a comparison between the South African occupation forces and the Cuban units that actively participated in the defense of Angola and helped the creation of a free, sovereign state.

Perhaps the imperialist intelligence centers thought that the Cuban blood shed in Africa would be forgotten by the peoples of that continent. The reality, however, has been quite different. The Angolan Government reacted indignantly against such purposes and recently, it wisely and constructively announced a plan for the independence of Namibia and an end the conflicts that affect southern Africa. No positive answer, however, has been received from the Pretoria authorities so far.

In a recent speech, Angolan Defense Minister Pedro Maria Tonha reiterated his government's serious and constructive stance and indicated that only South Africa's obstinacy about remaining illegally in Namibia hampers the termination of the problems in the area.

Luanda has not been the only country that has reacted to the imperialist plans. In a recent speech during the annual meeting of the United National Independence Party, Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda said that Angola's proposal deprives South Africa of any pretext to refuse a negotiation for Namibia's independence.

Kaunda also said that Angola is not required to accept the withdrawal of the Cuban troops before the Pretoria regime considers Namibia's case. In addition, Kaunda demanded that the United States cease supporting the South African racists and urged the United States to listen to Angola's proposal.

In turn, Julius Nyerere, president of the African Unity, Organization of has reiterated Africa's determination to struggle for its independence and has flatly rejected the imperialist plans to set new conditions for South African troops to leave Namibian soil. In a letter to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Nyerere recalled that African peoples form a common front that supports the struggle for liberation in Namibia and condemns all and any foreign intervention that strengthens reactionary stances and the apartheid regime.

In addition, this continental condemnation of the diversionary tactics of Pretoria and its allies has been firmly echoed by the expansion of the Namibian people's revolutionary struggle for its total independence. On 10 December it was reported that the People's Liberation Army of Namibia opened a new war front in the country's southern area. This indicates the extent to which the revolutionary war has been stepped up in this territory.

Western spokesmen have said this is alarming because the new war front borders South Africa, whose army operates in Namibia. Regarding the armed conflict, it has repeatedly been reported that the Pretoria regime is resorting more and more to Western and African mercenaries in its operations against Namibia. These war dogs come from the ranks of mercenaries that defended the Rhodesian regime, the disbanded Police for the Control of Foreigners and Defense of the State [PIDE] -- the secret police of the overthrown Portuguese fascists -- and Angolan terrorist organizations the National Union for the Total Liberation of Angola [UNITA] and National Front for the Liberation of Angola [FNLA]. The reality in the southern part of Africa is clear: diversionary tactics, crimes, imperialist support, and use of mercenaries are only unsuccessful maneuvers when confronted with the continent's willingness to promote Namibia's true independence and oppose the shame represented by apartheid.

STEELWORKING INDUSTRY CONFERENCE CLOSES

FL201300 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Minister of the Steelworking Industry Marcos Lage has called for the scientific and technical modernization of all branches of the steelworking industry during the closing ceremony of this industry's first scientific-technical forum, which was held in Havana. Jaime Crombet, Secretariat member of the party, and Wilfredo Torres, Central Committee member and president of the Cuban Academy of Sciences, presided at the closing event. Marcos Lage underscored the importance of the meeting, at which 116 topics were discussed. More than 900 delegates and guests were present, and 21 of them received awards.

IMF RECOMMENDS GASOLINE PRICE INCREASE

FL201320 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] The International Monetary Fund has recommended a 15-percent increase in gas prices for the Dominican Republic. The IMF also suggests a 25-percent increase in the cost of electricity and a reduction in food subsidies. An IMF commission visited the Dominican Republic about 2 weeks ago to continue negotiations on a 3-year, $459 million agreement, but their proposals were not disclosed until this week.

$200-MILLION INCREASE IN REVENUE REPORTED

FL191950 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 9 Dec p 14 A

[Excerpts] Government revenue during the first 11 months of the year amounted to $1,014,500. Foreign trade taxes made up 27 percent of this amount, equivalent to $270 million, according to preliminary official figures. There was a $200-million increase in revenue over the same period in 1983. The budget financing increase created by foreign trade increased by $66.8 million.

The Customs General Directorate has been during the first 11 months of the year the collecting office that contributed the greatest amount of revenue to the government, followed by tax revenue, which after falling to last place last October, recovered and is in second place. Of the $270 million contributed by foreign trade, $251 million came from import taxes, $18.7 million from export taxes, and $300,000 from "other" related taxes. In the first two components of foreign trade taxes there was an increase, while in "other" there was a $200,000 decrease. Import taxes increased by $54.3 million, while exports tax increased by $12.8 million.

MAJLUTA DISCUSSES GOVERNMENT 'INEPTNESS'

FL191830 Santo Domingo Radio Commercial Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Jacobo Majluta said today the government's undefined economic policies and administrative ineptness has lessened the people's confidence in it. Majluta, who is a lawyer and Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD], presidential candidate, attributed to these tow factors an increase in the economic crises which is affecting the country. The senator from the National District added that this situation has influenced and even been cause of the increase in dollar premiums. Interviewed on a television program, Majluta said the central government has demonstrated a great inability to confront the country's economic problems. The people have lost confidence, said Majluta, indicating that this is a negative factor on the country's economy. He also referred to the negative policies of the current administration, saying that this has affected the poor sectors of the country.

PENA GOMEZ ON POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

FL201724 Santo Domingo Radio Commercial Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez said today that if he decided to run for president in the next elections for the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] it would be in an all-out manner. The PRD leader also said that this was not the best time for him to define his presidential aspirations because if he said he would run, a break could occur within the PRD. It is thought that the PRD leader will decide whether to fun or not on the basis of the success of the national conference to be held 27 January in Santo Domingo.

REPORT ISSUED ON CARICOM TRADE WITH UK

FL202028 Bridgetown CANA in English 1928 GMT 20 Dec 84

[By Irvine Reid]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Dec 20, CANA -- Twelve Caribbean Community (Caricom) member countries earned an additional 118.7 million pounds sterling from exports to Britain between January and October this year, according to figures released by the British high commission in Barbados. The 12 countries also bought 82.3 million sterling more worth of goods from Britain this year. The only Caricom country not mentioned in the report was Belize, a former British colony in Central America. The value of the group's exports to Britain climbed from 239.6 million sterling in the first 10 months of 1983 to 258.3 million this year. Imports from Britain were up from 320.3 million sterling to 402.6 million sterling. The trade was largely dominated by Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, the Bahamas and Barbados.

Trinidad and Tobago's exports to Britain were up from 50.1 million sterling in 1983 to 137.0 million sterling and imports down from 130.6 million sterling to 87.8 million. Jamaican exports were slightly down from 80.1 million sterling to 73.5 million sterling and imports fell sharply from 107.4 million to 38.6 million.

Guyana's exports to Britain rose from 28.1 million sterling to 50.0 million sterling and its imports were slightly up from 11.4 million sterling to 12.2 million. Exports from the Bahamas to Britain were down from 22.1 million sterling to 15.1 million and imports skyrocketed from 918 million to 192.7 million sterling. Barbados sold Britain 11.7 million sterling worth of goods in the first 10 months of 1983 and 22.3 million this year. Imports from Britain fell slightly from 26.0 million sterling to 24.8 million.

St Vincent and the Grenadines exports were slightly up from 10.2 million sterling to 12.4 million and imports from 3.3 to 4.9 million. St Lucia's exports climbed from 18.8 million sterling to 25.2 million and imports from 4.6 million sterling to 6.7 million. Exports from St Kitts and Nevis rose from 1.8 million sterling to 3.1 million and imports from 3.7 million to 4.1 million. Montserrat's sales remained at .1 million sterling and imports from Britain were down from 1.9 million sterling to 1.7 million. Grenada sold Britain 4.7 million sterling worth of goods between January and October 1983 and 5.3 million this year. It bought 6.8 million sterling worth of British goods last year and 6.9 million this year. Dominica's exports rose from 10.4 million sterling to 13.6 million and imports were slightly down from 6.1 million to 6.0 million. Antigua and Barbuda's exports fell from 1.5 million sterling to .7 million and imports almost doubled from 8.7 million sterling to 15.6 million.

RAINFORD LAUDS BARBADOS FOR NASSAU PACT ACTION

FL210212 Bridgetown CANA in English 2257 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Dec 20, CANA -- The secretary general of the Caribbean Community (Caricom), Roderick Rainford, has praised Barbados for follow-up action on an agreement by the community's heads of government to remove intra-regional trade barriers and buy more goods from each other. Rainford said Barbados had acted expeditiously in implementing aspects of the Nassau package.

The heads of government drew up the package during their meeting in Nassau, the Bahamas, last July. The meeting took place against the background of deepening concern about trade barriers and sharp cutbacks in imports by some regional countries.

Rainford did not detail what aspects of the agreement Barbados had acted swiftly on. He adeed: We are working with a range of other states to promote implementation of other elements of that package. Rainford described 1984 as a reasonably good year in the areas of functional co-operation and in co-ordination of foreign policy. He added: From the point of view of critical new initiatives, the year was characterized more by the process of technical analysis, technical discussions, consultations towards arriving at consensus and, in some cases, actually ariving at consensus.

GRENADA

TUC VOICES DISAPPROVAL OF SENATE APPOINTMENT

FL201354 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] In Grenada, newly elected Prime Minister Herbert Blaize has come under fire from the Grenada Trade Union Council [TUC] for appointing a labor representative to the Senate without its approval. Although Mr Blaize said he had consulted the council before appointing the secretary general of the powerful Seamen and Waterfront Workers Union to the Senate, a statement from the council called the claim totally erroneous and misleading. The Trade Union Council, which includes all of Grenada's trade unions, says it had voiced strong objections to the manner in which the selection was made when it was informed of Prime Minister Blaize's decision.

NEW JEWEL MOVEMENT CALLS ELECTIONS UNFAIR

FL201746 Bridgetown CANA in English 1706 GMT 20 Dec 84

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 20, CANA -- The Marxist New Jewel Movement (NJM), which ruled Grenada by decree for nearly five years until it was ousted in a U.S.-led invasion a year ago, says the December 3 elections to revive Western democracy on the island were not free and fair. But the party, which has been keeping a low profile, welcomed the crushing defeat of the ring-wing Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) by the centrist New National Party (NNP) of new Prime Minister Herbert Blaize. The GULP is headed by Sir Eric Gairy, whose administration was ousted by the NJM in a 1979 coup. It won only one of the 15 parliamentary seats, with the other 14 going to the NNP.

It is quite clear to us in the NJM that the results of the elections do not indicate a love for Mr Blaize and his party but a deep hatred for Gairy, his dictatorship, and all forms of opportunism, whether the latter comes from the left or the right, the party said in one of two statements today. The October 1983 U.S.-led invasion followed feuding between NJM hardliners and moderates which culminated with the slaying of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop in a military coup staged by the radicals. The NJM did not contest the election, but a party formed by moderate ex-NJM members -- the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement -- did.

The NJM said the poll was not free and fair because only those parties that posed no threat to the continued illegal occupation of Grenada by U.S. and Caribbean forces were allowed to participate. This was done because it is well known that the NJM is the only party with real guts to stand up against the U.S. domination and control of independent Grenada, the NJM said. The NJM, whose entire leadership is in jail awaiting trial for the murder of Bishop and seven others, made a call for national unity and reconciliation. We say that now is not the time for us to be bickering and fighting among ourselves. Now is the time for us to be sober, reasonable, and rational, it said.

ECUADOR

RENEGOTIATION REDUCES DEBT SERVICING PERCENTAGE

PA202152 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Finance Minister Francisco Swett has announced that over the next few years Ecuador will allocate 34 percent of its export income to service its debt. Until now the government had allocated 57 percent of its export income to this sector but this figure has dropped as a result of the foreign debt renegotiation covering the period from 1985 to 1989. The renegotiation will ease the pressure on the foreign sector of the economy and will allow the government to allocate greater sums to development projects.

Swett, who returned to the country from New York where the negotiations with the bank committees were held, said that in 1985 the govenrment would have had to allocate approximately 75 percent of the country's financial assets from exports to service the debt, but the terms of the renegotiation allowed the percentage to be dropped to 34.

SURINAME

NETHERLANDS MINISTER SAYS AID NOT TO BE RESTORED

FL201430 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] The Dutch Government says it will not restore aid to Suriname, citing the country's democratization program as being insufficient. The Dutch foreign minister says the formation of a national assembly in Suriname is not good enough, since it was not chosen in free elections. The minister told Dutch television earlier this week that the program falls short of his government's expectations.

The government of Lieutenant Colonel Desi Bouterse says the assembly will consist of 14 military personnel, 11 labor leaders, and 6 businessmen.

The Netherlands had previously refused to provide $428 million in aid 2 years ago, after the Government of Suriname executed 15 political opponents on charges of trying to overthrow the authorities.

PRIVATE SECTOR REJECTS ASSEMBLY PARTICIPATION

FL141400 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 14 Dec 84

[Text] Sources in Paramaribo, Suriname, say one of the private sector groups offered representation in the proposed national assembly has voted against participation. The sources say representatives of the Suriname Association of Trade and Industry voted 54 to 25 Wednesday night against appointing members to the assembly.

At the same time, members of the nation's manufacturers sector voted in favor of participation. The assembly was proposed last week by a government-named panel. It would include appointees from the government of military leader Desi Bouterse as well as the private sector. The assembly would replace an interim cabinet named by Colonel Bouterse early this year and would be given 27 months to write a new constitution for Suriname.